

Possible Holiday Food and Toy Programs 2011

Deadlines and Program Capacities Vary

We ask that you enlist interpreters and bilingual staff to get the information to ESL families.

I want to extend a HUGE **Thank You!** to two **Courage Center** Social Service Assistants, **Betty Goodman and Kathy McMahon**, who dedicated many volunteer hours of their time and effort in contacting each resource listed on the “Food Resources and Possible Holiday Food and Toy Programs 2011 Lists” and ensuring that we are able to provide the most current information available. And, then, they put together a user-friendly listing of all of these Metro-wide resources into documents that we are now able to share with you and the families you know. Please share this information with others who may benefit from it!

Thank you! Have a Happy and Blessed Holiday Season!

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A number of Food Shelves are having Holiday food and toy programs for their participants. If you are getting food from a Food Pantry/Shelf, or registered with a Food Pantry/Shelf, please check with them!

SALVATION ARMY TOY PROGRAM: For children up to age 14. Taking registrations at **651-746-3595 Monday through Friday from November 7 – December 9, 2011. Must register by phone and obtain an appointment!** Toy Shop will be open at the Minneapolis National Guard Armory Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 19, 20 & 21, 2011, from 8:30 am to 6:30 pm; at Crossroads Church, Burnsville, on Monday, December 12, 2011, from 8:30 am to 6:30 pm; at Northwestern College, St. Paul on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, December 19, 20, 21, 2011 from 8:30 am - 6:30 pm; at Anoka National Guard Armory on Thursday, December 22, 2011 from 12 - 4 pm. ID required for each child and recent piece of mail – same requirements as Coats for Kids program. You **cannot** be registered for any other toy program, such as Toys for Tots.

Registration may also be done on line at <http://www.thesalarmy.com/toyshop/>. When you complete the form, your information will be given to an agency that can serve you. They will be responsible for instructing you on how to pick up toys.

TOYS FOR TOTS AND GIFTS FOR TEENS 2011. Specific information is not available. **Watch your local TV station for information (such as KARE 11).** You **cannot** be registered for another toy program, such as Salvation Army Operation Joy, to register for Toys for Tots.

S.T.E.P. (for St. Louis Park residents only): 6812 W. Lake St., St. Louis Park

952-925-4899. Registration can be make November 7-23, 2011 during regular food pick-up or Monday - Thursday 1-2pm and Tuesdays 6-7pm. . ID of a current bill, lease, etc. and photo ID is required. No information available yet about December holiday food or gifts.

INTERCONGREGATION COMMUNITITES ASSOCIATION (ICA): 952-938-0729

www.icafoodshelf.org. For residents of Deephaven, Excelsior, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Shorewood, Woodland & Greenwood. They will have a 1 day turkey give away on Thursday, November 17, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 241 5th Ave. N., Hopkins, and from 6 – 9 p.m. at Christ Community Church, 897 3rd Ave., Excelsior. Anyone in the service area may participate. No pre-registration or scheduling needed. Must have same ID information as above. No Christmas program at this time.

RESOURCE WEST TOY CHEST: For residents of Deephaven, Excelsior, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Shorewood, Woodland & Greenwood. To see if you qualify, contact the office at 952-988-5350. www.resourcewest.org. Registration is December 6-9, 2011 and Distribution: is December 19-23, 2011. To qualify for this program, you must have an income that qualifies your family for the Free or Reduced School Lunch Program, have physical custody of the children, and your children must be under the age of 17 (all 17 year olds must be register in High School). ID necessary: current utility bill (within last 30 days), ID for yourself, and ID for your children (school ID, medical insurance card, Social Security card)

VEAP (VOLUNTEERS ENLISTED TO ASSIST PEOPLE, 9728 Irving Ave. S.

Bloomington, 55431, 952-888-9616 www.veapvolunteers.org

For residents of Bloomington, Richfield, Edina and parts of Minneapolis south of 50th St. and west of Cedar Ave. No Thanksgiving meal but do have some extra Saturday pickups available. Christmas hot meals delivered for 1-2 persons in household who are registered. Meals will be delivered Thursday November 24, 2011 between 11:15 – 12:30. Someone must be home. All other families: Call in only orders on November 12, 2011 from 9am- Noon. Regular hour registration same as above starting November 14-December 7, 2011. No walk-ins. Toys available for 0-18 years children and grocery gift cards for members of family.

PRISM (Holiday Shoppe): www.prismmpls.com For residents in Golden Valley; South of 42nd Avenue in Crystal, New Hope, or Robbinsdale; East of 494 in Plymouth. Parents may come and choose Holiday presents for each of their children approximately two weeks before the Holidays. They are also given Holiday wrap and other supplies as they are available. To sign up, you must be seen by a PRISM Caseworker. To make an appointment call 763-529-1350. Families must come to PRISM and sign up for a time slot in person. Sign up begins Sept. 1 or the first business day in September. Families must have proof of address and ID cards for each child. **(Crystal Target Christmas Shopping for Kids)** The New Hope Women of Today sponsor this event in which about 50 children of PRISM clients may be accompanied to the Crystal Target store by a volunteer, to shop for presents for his/her family members. Target makes special concessions for these early morning shoppers, and ushers the children and volunteers into the employees break-room after shopping is complete. There, with materials provided by Target, and with assistance from some Target employees who volunteer, the children get to wrap the gifts they selected. Of course, refreshments are provided (by Target) and a surprise visit from ... it's a surprise.

EMERGENCY FOOD SHELF NETWORK: Baskets of Hope will be distributed through local food shelf. Check with your food shelf. www.emergencyfoodshelf.org.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH: 2400 Park Avenue, S., Minneapolis, MN. 612-871-8831. On Saturday, November 19, 2011 and Saturday, December 17, 2011, from 10 – 12, there will be

food given out to prepare a Holiday meal instead of the regular food shelf items. Must live in the Phillips Neighborhood- To the North: Highway 94; to the South: Lake Street; to the East: Hiawatha Avenue; and to the West: I-35W. Must have ID and proof of residence (utility bill, current mail).

**PEOPLE REACHING OUT TO OTHER PEOPLE (PROP), 14700 Martin Drive
Eden Prairie, 55344 952-937-9120 www.propfood.org,**

For residents of Eden Prairie and Chanhassen. Must be a client of PROP food shelf to access the food and gift programs. PROP clients may sign up for Holiday gifting program to receive gifts for children up to age 18. Must register from November 7 -16, 2011, Monday – Friday 9:30 am – 12:30pm and Monday – Wednesday 4:00pm – 6:00pm. Same ID is required as above.

**ST VINCENT De PAUL SOCIETY, WESTONKA FOOD SHELF, 2443 Commerce Blvd.
Mound, 55364 952-472-5599**

For residents of Independence, Maple Plain, Minnetrista, Mound, Orono, St. Boniface, Spring Park, Tonka Bay who use the food shelf. Holiday baskets are given out for Thanksgiving on Saturday, November 19, 2011 from 10am - Noon and for Christmas on December 17, 2011 from 10am- Noon. Must be in the area served listed above and show Driver's License. No registration necessary.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP): For residents of Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park & East Champlin who have children in the household age 18 or younger and income eligibility is met. Call 763-450-3676 to be screened and schedule an appointment for one of our Registration Sessions. Holiday Phone line will be answered 9am-3pm, November 7 - December 7, 2011 or until registration sessions are filled. You will need to bring the following information for everyone in your household: either a birth certificated, insurance card or photo ID, all adults registered will need income information, current piece of mail dated within last 30 days or current lease.

NEAR (North Suburban Emergency Assistance Response) 4803 Welcome Ave. N., Crystal 763-533-2836 www.nearfoodshelf.org. Residents in New Hope, Crystal, or Robbinsdale, between 42nd Ave. N and 62nd Ave. N. Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes of food are given. Toys, caps and mittens are given out on December 17, 2011. Will accept families who are not registered at the Food Shelf if they live within their area. Call for appointment Monday - Friday 12:00 - 3:00 pm.

DAKOTA COUNTY FOOD SHELVES (360 COMMUNITIES): Their Armful of Love program matches Dakota County families in need with donors to provide families with gifts and toys. Contact 952-985-4065 starting October 17, 2011 for an interview

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD - WOODBURY: Serves as a Holiday Bureau, gathering and distributing gifts for ages birth to 18. If people need help at Thanksgiving and Christmas, register at the food shelf. Call for information to 651-332-9042.