

WINTER NEWSLETTER



Children's
FRIEND

ChildrensFriendRI.org



The 2020 *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive

Safe, Socially Distant, and Santa Approved

The *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive is a much-loved tradition at Children's Friend. It's always challenging and always evolving. This year, because of COVID-19, we had to rethink everything we do and develop a plan to serve children, share the joy with our donors, and maintain recommended CDC safety procedures. That's a tall order.

Thanks to our newly minted Holiday Drive Store online and our donors' generosity, we're delighted to announce the drive was a great success.

The 2020 *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive provided gifts and warm clothing to over 1,200 families in need. We did that without a single case of COVID-19 infection related to the Holiday Drive. How great is that?

Kudos to our sponsors! Pat yourselves on the back and celebrate this achievement. In the middle of a worldwide pandemic, **YOU** helped provide for over 1,200 families this holiday season. That's pretty terrific, in our opinion.

Our Top Corporate Partners For The 2020 *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive

AMGEN

Amica
AUTO HOME LIFE

Bank of America

BANK NEWPORT



beaconmobile

blum
shapiro

BROWN

Cardi's
FURNITURE + MATTRESSES

Citizens Bank

CVS Health
CHARITY CLASSIC

DELTA DENTAL

IGT

KPMG

LBH

McLaughlin
Morales, Inc.

MetLife

Morgan Stanley

OLD NAVY

PROVIDENCE EQUITY

PROVIDENCE
PLACE

RIWBA

Robinson + Cole

SHAWMUT
Design and Construction

Saint Francis
de Sales

St. John Vianney
A Roman Catholic Community

TEKNORAPEX

TOYS FOR TOTS

Tribal Vision
HELPING BUSINESS MARKET SMARTER





LETTER from the PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

Reflecting upon this past year, I recall the inspirational words of Martin Luther King, Jr., who once said, "If you

can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

The pandemic has been challenging for all of us at Children's Friend. While adhering to social distancing restrictions, we keep moving forward to improve the well-being and healthy development of Rhode Island's most vulnerable children and their families. We have followed all mandated guidelines to ensure that our staff, children, and families remain safe during these tough times.

Our 2020 *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive was extraordinarily successful. Through the overwhelming generosity of our many corporate partners, organizations, and individual

donors, Children's Friend provided warm clothing, toys, and gift cards to over 1,200 needy families.

With the need greater than ever, I continue to be inspired by the unwavering support of those who sponsored a family or donated to the Holiday Drive. You helped to brighten the season for so many families who struggle daily to obtain necessities. Never underestimate the impact you have on the lives of those you help.

In gratitude for what we have accomplished together, I am confident that the new year will bring even more success as we partner again to improve the lives of the at-risk children and families we serve.

Sincerely,

David Caprio
President and Chief Executive Officer



Are You Looking for High-Quality, Safe Childcare? NOW ENROLLING! Children's Friend Can Help You Get All of Your Ducks in a Row.

We know that many childcare and daycare providers have been unable to remain open during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you need a new childcare option, Children's Friend can help.

Our Childcare Program provides quality care and education to children ages three, four, and five. (Childcare at Dexter Street is available for children six weeks to five years of age.) Our goals are to foster a positive self-concept, develop social skills, promote language and physical development, encourage creative expression, and foster an awareness and respect of diverse cultures and values.

Experienced and degreed teachers lead each classroom. Bilingual staff is always available to help support the center's children and families. A registered nurse is available to provide support and answer parents' health questions.

Our nutritious breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack are approved by the Department of Education's Child and Adult Care Food Program. We maintain a strict cleaning schedule and follow CDC guidelines regarding COVID-19. The safety and health of the children in our care is always our number one priority.

The hours of operation for the Childcare Centers are 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For information about childcare rates and availability, please contact Enrollment Supervisor Lucrecia Lopez at 401.752.7705 or llopez@cfsri.org.



Follow us on social media.



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A Lasting Legacy

Change is a part of life.

During the past year, we have realized the deep meaning of that statement. Children's Friend carried on with their mission without wavering from the responsibility to provide for our most vulnerable children in need.

We also realized the importance of the generosity of our Harriet Ware Society members. Their vision of donating to our agency in the future, when they are no longer here, by creating their enduring legacy was a testament to the work we do.

You do not have to be a millionaire to have an impact on someone's life. You can create a legacy and still provide for your family. Your financial advisor can advise you of the many options available such as adding a codicil to your will or life insurance policy.

Here are some quotes from our members about why they made a bequest to Children's Friend:

"I became a member of the Harriet Ware Society because the mission of Children's Friend matched my priorities: the needs of vulnerable children."

"I may not live forever, but I can still have an impact."

"Giving to Children's Friend has been an easy decision; it is a responsible organization that is doing a tremendous amount of good in the community where we all work and live. I also feel that investing dollars in young children has the added benefit of having the most significant impact on someone's life."

Children's Friend changes the lives of vulnerable children. Please consider adding Children's Friend to your will or your legacy plan.

For further information, please contact Joyce LaFrance Tormey, Planned Giving Coordinator at 401.276.4218 or jtormey@cfsri.org.



It's Easy to Donate Through Amazon!

It's been a year of changes and adjustments here at Children's Friend. We had to get creative and develop new ways to serve families. With that in mind, we created an Amazon Wish List that is available to the public for the direct donation of needed items.

As we moved into our yearly Holiday Drive, more and more donors took advantage of our Amazon Wish List. Soon, the list became instrumental in our 2020 *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive's success.

Starting in late November, Amazon boxes began to arrive. As quickly as we were unboxing those warm winter coats, cozy pajamas, and award-winning toys, we were distributing them to families in need for the holiday. One particularly cold, wet, and dreary December

morning, the entire bay of our loading dock was full to bursting. It felt like hundreds of boxes had arrived. The display of generosity made that cold day feel so much warmer.

The needs of our families have not diminished this past year but have grown. In light of this, we have launched a new Amazon Wish List to benefit the COVID-19 Emergency Crisis Fund. We were humbled and amazed by your support of our Amazon Wish List during the holiday drive. We hope that support will continue and that we can assist even more vulnerable children and families with your help.

If purchasing on Amazon, please use smile.amazon.com and select Children's Friend as your preferred organization. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase back to Children's Friend.



Scan QR Code to view wishlist



SAVE THE DATE: 401Gives is April 1st!

Help vulnerable children and families on 401Gives Day with a gift to Children's Friend.



**Go directly to our 401Gives Page:
Scan this QR Code with your mobile device or visit
www.givegab.com/nonprofits/children-s-friend**

For more information, go to 401gives.org