

Adopt A Family - Frequently Asked Questions

When does the Adopt-A-Family program start?

For donors: The online application form will be up and running beginning October 3, 2011. Donors can sign up for the program online by following the link provided. Other ways to sign up: by phone at 519-576-0540 ext. 3766 or by email at adoptafamily@facswaterloo.org.

For workers: Workers will begin to sign up their families on October 3, 2011. They have until the middle of November to sign up families on their caseloads. Once families are signed up, they begin to be matched with donors.

I signed up two weeks ago and still haven't received information on a family to shop for.

We know that donors are anxious to beat the holiday rush and shop for their families. However, donors are matched based on families available. It may take a few weeks to find a family that best meets the donor's application. Also, workers have until the middle of November to submit their family applications so there is a possibility that donors may not be matched until closer to the holiday season.

Please be assured that we will find you a match and your donation is very much needed and appreciated!

Where and when do we drop off gifts?

The wrapped and labeled gifts can be delivered to the following locations **during the week of December 5 –9, 2011.**

Kitchener/Waterloo families: 200 Ardelt Avenue Kitchener, ON N2C 2L9

Cambridge families: 168 Hespeler Road Cambridge, ON N1R6V7

Can we deliver gifts to the families ourselves?

Unfortunately due to confidentiality, we do not allow donors to deliver gifts directly to the families. The social worker involved with the family will deliver the gifts directly.

We are collecting as a group and are unsure of the size of the family we should adopt?

We recommend \$75 per person in the family (eg: family of two = \$150, family of three = \$225). If donors are unsure of the size of family that they are able to adopt, it is suggested that they select a smaller

sized family that they know they can support. If you find, after collecting donations that you are able to support more people, we suggest adopting another small family to ensure that all families will receive gifts this holiday season.

Do my gift purchases qualify for a tax receipt?

Yes. All gifts qualify for charitable tax receipts. Donors must submit all **receipts** in a clearly marked envelope stating the donor name(s) and up to date contact information. Tax receipts will be mailed out during the month of February 2011.

Please note that for group purchases or gifts made on behalf of more than one family or individual, the donor must identify the amount and contact information for each group member.

Tax receipts will be issued for cost before HST and only when receipts have been included.

I only want to buy for children. Do I have to support the entire family?

Donors sign up to “adopt-a-family” based on the number of people in that family unit. This includes any adults (often single parents) in the family unit. Some donors feel that the holidays are a time for children to receive gifts and don’t wish to buy for the parents. We understand their thoughts, but urge donors to also consider supporting the family as a whole. Most times the parents ask for items that are needed in the home (ie. Dishes, towels, sheets, pillows, etc.); Items that also benefit the well-being of their children.

If donors only wish to shop for children, we recommend that they take part in our Adopt-A-Youth program. For \$100 they are able to shop for a youth in need, living on their own in the community.