

Adopt-A-Youth Program

Iowa Homeless Youth Centers

What is the Adopt-A-Youth Program?

We look for individuals, families or business groups who are interested in making this holiday season memorable for the youth we serve. For many of these youth, this will be their only present to open during the holidays.

Youth from our Buchanan, Lighthouse, Outreach and Aftercare program will fill out a 4 item wish list of wanted or needed items at \$50-100. We ask that donors use this list to purchase **2 items** per youth being adopted.

How many youth are being adopted this year?

IHYC has around 100 youth in need of assistance this holiday season. For this reason, we are asking that **only 2 gifts** are purchased for each youth- in hopes all 100 youth will be adopted.

Buchanan houses 10 youth

Lighthouse house 7 families (women and children)

Aftercare has near 90 youth in their program (some also have children)

Donors can adopt 1 youth or up to as many as you choose!

What else should I know?

I will receive the wish lists on or before November 19th, so I can pass them to you by November 22nd. This will give you a good month to shop for items.

I am asking that gifts are delivered to our location between December 6th and December 14th. Gifts will be brought to the location of where the adoption is taking place!

We also do ask that gifts are wrapped with the participants name on a Name Tag. It is up to you if you want to fill in the From: If you want to remain anonymous, please let me know ahead of time, as youth usually ask who helped them and want to write thank you notes. You will not meet face to face with the youth being adopted for confidentiality purposes.

Will you get to meet the youth? Due to the number of youth being adopted, donors will not have individual meetings with the participants. This is also due to many of our youth are embarrassed that they have to ask for assistance during the holiday time. But, we are open to giving a tour of our facility.

How do I sign up?

Please email me back with the following information:

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Number of youth or families you would like to adopt:

What if I want to help, but can't adopt a youth?

We also look for donors who want to help prepare holiday meals or prepare goodies for the programs.

Individuals or Groups can also help us this holiday season by arranging a donation drive, including items such as men and women socks, toilet paper, paper plates/cups, Kleenex and hygiene items. These items are used within our programs and are passed to participants in need.

**Thank you,
Toni Nicol**

Iowa Homeless Youth Centers. 1219 Buchanan St. Des Moines, IA 50316. 515-265-1222