

Dallas Children's Advocacy Center's

HOLIDAY *of* H PE

COMMUNITY TOOLKIT



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About DCAC & Holiday of Hope



DALLAS CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

For over 30 years, Dallas Children's Advocacy Center (DCAC) has been dedicated to improving the lives of abused children in Dallas County and leading the fight against child abuse on a national scale. DCAC is the only organization in Dallas County that partners with law enforcement, Child Protective Services, and medical professionals to investigate, prosecute, and provide healing services for child abuse cases.

By reducing the re-victimization of children, removing barriers to investigation and treatment, and supporting criminal prosecutions, we ensure that every child we serve has a path toward healing.

HOLIDAY OF HOPE

The holidays can be a difficult time, especially for children living in the aftermath of criminal child abuse. Each year, DCAC brings a smile to thousands of our client's faces when we provide them with gifts and toys through our annual Holiday of Hope program.

Each year we help remove barriers for our families by providing current DCAC clients and their siblings brand-new gifts and toys. Each child receives an age-appropriate book, a fuzzy blanket, and 3-4 age-appropriate gifts. In addition, all families receive 1-2 board games to play together.

Holiday of Hope is made possible by the generous support of community members like you! Whether you sign up to host a toy drive, shop one of our wish lists, or donate monetarily, you are making a significant impact on the life of a child this holiday season.



Links, Dates, & Must Know Info

HOST A TOY DRIVE

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

Bring your friends, family, or coworkers together to collect brand-new, unwrapped toys for children at DCAC. It is a simple way to make a huge impact, and every toy donated helps bring light and joy to a child in need.

Donations can be dropped off during the weekdays at DCAC from December 3 – December 10 (excluding weekends), from 9 AM to 4 PM.

DCAC Address: 5351 Samuell Blvd., Dallas, TX 75228

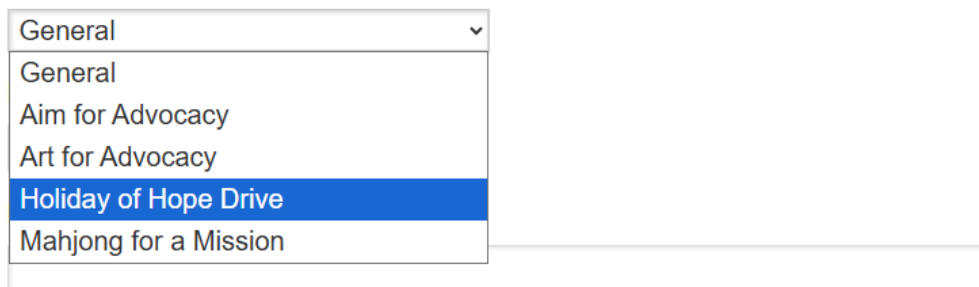
IN-KIND DONATION FORM

[COMPLETE IN-KIND DONATION FORM ONLINE HERE](#)

To ensure we can properly record your donation, **all toy drive hosts must complete the In-Kind Donation Form before dropping off toys.**

On this form, please select “Holiday of Hope Drive” for the purpose of your donation. *See screenshot below.*

Please select a purpose for your donation (if unsure, select "general")

A screenshot of a web form showing a dropdown menu. The menu is open, displaying five options: "General", "Aim for Advocacy", "Art for Advocacy", "Holiday of Hope Drive", and "Mahjong for a Mission". The "Holiday of Hope Drive" option is highlighted with a blue background. The dropdown is set against a light gray background.

General	▼
General	
Aim for Advocacy	
Art for Advocacy	
Holiday of Hope Drive	
Mahjong for a Mission	

If you need help determining the estimated retail value of your donation, you may use our [In-Kind Equivalencies Form](#).

Please keep this in mind and remember to complete the form before your items are brought or delivered to DCAC.



VOLUNTEERING

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

Volunteer shifts are available during the weekdays from December 8 – 22 (excluding weekends).

Visit the volunteer sign up link above for specific dates and times.

If you are signing up on behalf of a group, please reserve the total numbers of spots for the number of people who will be serving as part of your group.

Due to the large amount of donations, we rely on the help from volunteers to make this event possible. We are unable to accommodate last-minute date changes, and request that you notify us as soon as possible if you're unable to fulfill your shift.

Wish Lists & Most Needed Toys

ONLINE WISH LISTS

- [AMAZON](#)
- [TARGET](#)
- [WALMART](#)
- [MISS A](#)
- [HDI](#)

Ship items directly to DCAC:

Hannah Counter, 5351 Samuell Blvd., Dallas, TX 75228

GIFT IDEAS FOR ALL AGES

BOARD GAMES

Hungry Hungry Hippos, Guess Who?, Connect 4, Pie Face, Headbanz, Battleship, Jenga, Chutes & Ladders, Candy Land, Sorry, Trouble, Life, Monopoly (Junior & Classic), Scrabble, Apples to Apples, Uno, Clue, Codenames, Pictionary, Puzzles

GIFT CARDS

Retail/Online: Amazon, Walmart, Target, Old Navy, American Eagle, Nike, Academy, Dick's Sporting Goods

Make Up/Accessories: Forever 21, Claire's, Ulta, Sephora

Food/Drink: Starbucks, Chick-fil-A, Chipotle, McDonald's, Whataburger, Raising Cane's, Torchy's, WingStop, Buffalo Wild Wings, Wendy's, Panda Express, Olive Garden, Chili's

Entertainment: Movie theaters, GameStop, Steam, Main Event, SpeedZone, video game stores (GameStop, Steam, Xbox, PlayStation)



Wish Lists & Most Needed Toys

GIFT IDEAS BY AGE AND GENDER

TEEN BOYS (Ages 13-17)

MOST NEEDED CATEGORY

Toys & Games: Advanced Lego sets, drones, RC helicopters, remote control cars, boxing/kickboxing kits, gaming chairs

Books & Art: Young adult novels, journals, sketchbooks, graphic novels, adult coloring books, art supply kits

Sports & Outdoor: Sports balls with pump (soccer balls, footballs, basketballs), skateboards/scooters with helmets, baseball gloves, boxing gloves/pads

Entertainment: Bluetooth speakers/headphones, LED lights, video game gift cards (GameStop, Steam, Xbox, PlayStation), extra controllers, headsets

Accessories: Wallets, sports merchandise, baseball caps, beanies, watches, Axe body spray sets, fuzzy blankets

TEEN GIRLS (Ages 13-17)

Toys & Games: Instax polaroid camera & film,

Books & Art: Young adult novels, journals, guided self-care notebooks, sketch pads, advanced art supplies (paint sets, calligraphy, gel pens)

Sports & Outdoor: Scooters/skateboards with helmets, sports balls with pump (soccer balls, volleyballs, basketballs), yoga mats

Entertainment: Bluetooth speakers/headphones, LED room lights

Accessories: Jewelry, watches, purses, crossbody bags, fashion scarves, hair tools (straighteners, curling irons), spa gift sets, makeup sets, nail polish kits, fuzzy blankets, bag charms

PRE-TEEN BOYS (Ages 9-12)

Toys & Games: Lego Technic/advanced sets, NERF toys, RipStiks, remote control cars, drones, model car kits

Books & Art: Early chapter books, sketch pads, beginner art kits

Sports & Outdoor: Sports balls with pump (soccer balls, footballs, basketballs), scooters with helmets

Entertainment: Bluetooth speakers/headphones, STEM kits

Accessories: Wallets, baseball caps, fleece blankets



PRE-TEEN GIRLS (Ages 9-12)

Toys & Games: LOL Surprise dolls, Barbie playsets (all ethnicities), Lego Friends sets

Books & Art: Early chapter books, journals with locks, advanced coloring books, gel pens/marker sets, sewing or craft kits

Sports & Outdoor: Sports balls with pump (soccer balls, volleyballs, basketballs), scooters with helmets, jump ropes

Entertainment: Bluetooth speakers, Bluetooth headphones

Accessories: Purses, wallets, jewelry, hair accessory kits, nail polish sets, beginner makeup kits, bath bomb kits, cozy blankets

YOUTH BOYS (Ages 3-8)

Toys & Games: Action figures, Hot Wheels/monster trucks, racetracks, Lego Classic sets, riding toys/tricycles with helmets, walkie-talkies, interactive robot toys

Books & Art: Storybooks, coloring books with crayons/markers

Sports & Outdoor: T-ball sets, sports balls with pump (soccer balls, youth basketballs, footballs)

Accessories: Character blankets, themed backpacks

YOUTH GIRLS (Ages 3-8)

Toys & Games: Barbies (all ethnicities) with cars, houses, clothes, dress-up costumes, make-believe sets (kitchen, tea, grocery store, doctor), Play-Doh sets, Lego Friends/basic sets, electronic learning toys

Books & Art: Storybooks (Disney Princess, Pete the Cat, Dr. Seuss, Mo Willems), beginner art sets (markers, crayons, coloring pads), sticker books, jewelry-making kits

Sports & Outdoor: Jump ropes, hula hoops, sports balls with pump (soccer balls, youth basketballs, volleyballs), riding toys/scooters with helmets

Accessories: Small purses, hair bows, play makeup sets (washable), nail sticker kits

INFANT & TODDLER (Ages 0-2)

Toys & Games: Wooden puzzles (shapes, animals), building blocks, stuffed animals (teddy bears, elephants, dinosaurs), trucks/cars, riding toys/push walkers, Disney toys, baby dolls (all ethnicities), baby strollers, musical toys (drums, xylophones, shakers), VTech/Fisher-Price learning toys, light-up interactive toys

Books: Board books (animal themes, touch-and-feel, colors and counting, bedtime)

Accessories: Cozy blankets, stuffed toys, bib sets, toddler hats, socks



Sample Language & Media Resources

All media shown can be downloaded via Dropbox at the links below.

PRINTABLE TEMPLATES



MOST NEEDED ITEMS FLYER



TOY DRIVE BOX LABEL



THANK YOU CARD TEMPLATE

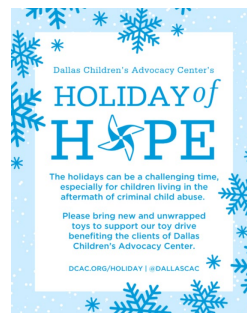


SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS

[Download all graphics and a story post HERE.](#)



[INSTAGRAM GRAPHIC #1](#)



[INSTAGRAM GRAPHIC #2](#)

SAMPLE INSTAGRAM CAPTION

Help bring joy to children in need this season by supporting our Holiday of Hope toy drive for @DallasChildrensAdvocacyCenter! 🎁

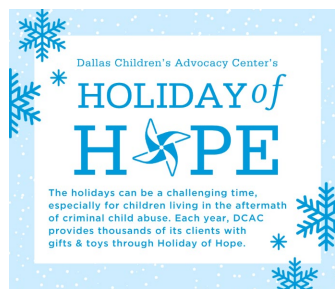
Drop off new, unwrapped toys at [INSERT LOCATION] by [INSERT DATE] to help bring comfort and joy to children and families experiencing child abuse in our community.

Need gift ideas or want to learn more? Reach out—I'd love to help! Every donation makes a difference. ❤️

#HolidayOfHope #DallasCAC #DCAC



[FACEBOOK/LINKEDIN GRAPHIC #1](#)



[FACEBOOK/LINKEDIN GRAPHIC #2](#)

SAMPLE FACEBOOK AND LINKEDIN CAPTION

Help bring joy to children in need this holiday season by supporting @DallasChildrensAdvocacyCenter's Holiday of Hope toy drive!

Bring new, unwrapped toys to [INSERT LOCATION] by [INSERT DATE] to bring comfort and joy to children and families served by DCAC. Every gift helps remind kids they're valued, loved, and not alone.

Reach out if you have questions or want ideas on what to buy—and visit <https://dcac.org/getinvolved/holiday-of-hope/> to learn more about how you can make a difference this season.

#HolidayOfHope #DallasCAC #DCAC



EMAIL OUTREACH TEMPLATE

Help spread awareness and support children and families this holiday season by sharing this email with your friends, coworkers, or community groups. You can personalize it with your own drop-off details or simply share the link to DCAC's Holiday of Hope campaign to encourage others to give.

SAMPLE EMAIL TEMPLATE

Subject line: Help bring holiday joy to kids at DCAC!

Body:

Dear [NAME],

This holiday season, I'm supporting Dallas Children's Advocacy Center (DCAC) through their Holiday of Hope program—an annual toy drive that helps bring comfort and joy to children healing from abuse.

Every year, DCAC provides toys, books, and cozy items to the children and families they serve, helping make the holidays a little brighter for those facing incredibly tough circumstances.

I'd love your help in collecting toys for this special cause! You can view DCAC's toy wishlist and find details about the toy drive here:

<https://dcac.org/getinvolved/holiday-of-hope/>

Please drop off brand-new, unwrapped toys at:

Location: [INSERT LOCATION]

On or before: [INSERT DATE(S)]

If you'd prefer to give directly, you can also make a contribution to the Holiday of Hope campaign here: <https://dcac.org/donate/>.

Thank you for helping spread hope and joy this season to children who deserve both.

Best,

[YOUR NAME]



Frequently Asked Questions

CAN I SPONSOR HOLIDAY OF HOPE?

Yes! If you and/or your organization are interested in sponsoring Holiday of Hope, please reach out to Liz Robinson at Lrobinson@dcac.org

DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN IN-KIND DONATION FORM?

Yes, all donations must be accompanied by an In-Kind Donation Form, which you can complete [online here](#). This helps us track the value and inventory of donations to better serve our clients. To ensure smooth drop-offs, fill this form out BEFORE dropping off toys.

While you don't need to submit the [In-Kind Equivalencies Form](#), we recommend using it to estimate the value of your donation.

CAN WE DELIVER TOYS ALREADY WRAPPED?

We appreciate your thoughtfulness, but we ask that all gifts be delivered unwrapped. This allows us to personalize the gifts for our clients based on their preferences. It also gives caregivers the option to decide who the gifts are from and how to distribute them among their children.

CAN COLLECTED TOYS BE PICKED UP?

Due to our small team and lack of transportation resources, we are unable to pick up toys. We are accepting donations during the weekdays at DCAC from December 3 – December 10 (excluding weekends), from 9 AM to 4 PM.

If you absolutely cannot drop off during this window, please email holidayofhope@dcac.org and we'll do our best to accommodate.

CAN THOSE UNDER THE AGE OF 18 VOLUNTEER?

Only adults over the age of 18 may volunteer at DCAC. Our strict 18 and under policy is in place to protect the confidentiality of the children we serve.



CAN I TAKE PHOTOS WHILE WE DROP OFF TOYS?

We're happy to allow you to take a team photo with the toys during your drop-off! However, please ensure that no DCAC clients are visible or included in any photos, as we must prioritize their privacy and safety. While DCAC staff may be able to join your photo if they are available, it is a very busy time at the center and we cannot guarantee their availability.

HOW CAN I STAY INVOLVED WITH DCAC THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?

Become a Monthly Donor (A.K.A. a “Hero for Healing”) – Your ongoing support ensures children and families in need have access to the crucial healing services we offer at no-cost. Plus, you'll get updates and success stories to see your impact firsthand. [Visit our page here](#) to learn more or contact hmonger@dcac.org

Sign Up for Our Newsletter: Stay updated on our impact, upcoming events, and ways to help. [Visit this link](#) to sign up today.

Follow & Share: Engaging with us on social media and sharing our posts helps expand our reach and educate others about child abuse prevention. Instagram and Facebook @DallasCAC; LinkedIn @Dallas Children's Advocacy Center



Thank you!

From all of us at DCAC, thank you for supporting us this year during Holiday of Hope!

