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www.GiftingGraceProject.com

Gifting Grace Project, Acadiana's Homeless Children's Outreach, is excited to announce the start of our Christmas 2022 Project! Our mission all year is to freely love, serve and support the homeless children in our community.

Did you know that by the end of the 2021-2022 school year there was a combined total of over 2000 children enrolled in the Homeless Education Department's of Acadia Parish, Iberia Parish, St. Martin Parish, Lafayette Parish and Vermilion Parish? Lafayette Parish alone had a total of 1261 homeless students! These children and unaccompanied youth are living in cars, shelters, motels, store parking lots, doubled-up, couch-to-couch, etc. Most of these children do not have adequate clothing, food or hygiene necessities. This is a shocking and sobering reality for our community and our organization addresses this head on.

The purpose of our Christmas project is to engage the community at large and encourage them to sponsor a child for Christmas and provide them with a meaningful gift.

There are several ways you can contribute. Below are a few.

1. Select a child from our "Virtual Angel Tree" and Purchase them a Christmas gift.

Visit our website at www.giftinggraceproject.com and select the button that says "Sponsor a Child for Christmas". This will direct you to a list of children organized by parish. You can scroll through the children listed and find one or more you would like to sponsor. Once you select and submit a child to sponsor, you will then purchase a special Christmas gift (\$40 min. please) for that child and then deliver it to our drop-off location as listed on our website. The deadline to drop off the gift is **December 8th**. We will then coordinate the distribution of the gifts the week before Christmas.

2. Toy or Gift Drive. Collect items through your organization, club or business and donate them to Gifting Grace Project. Here are suggestions of what are some great gifts. Gift card or gift set; sports ball or baby doll; legos or hot wheels; scooter or bike; makeup/nail set; remote control car; etc. Deadline is **December 8th**.

3. Start your own fundraiser or make a donation: Start your own fundraiser by going to our website at www.GiftingGraceProject.com > Christmas > Start a fundraiser. Share the link to all of your email contacts, on your website or on your social media sites encouraging involvement and participation in this cause that you believe in. All donation amounts will go directly toward providing Christmas gifts, Student Care Kits, general operational expenses, and project advertisements and marketing.

If you would like to make a project sponsorship donation, we would love to say thank you by sharing your support through our social media pages, the Gifting Grace website, and including your logo in our GGP Friends and Partners Newsletter.

The end of our Christmas project will be on Friday, December 8th. We will work diligently with our volunteers to have all the gifts in their hands before Christmas Day. What a smile and joy that will bring!

Thank you for your time and we look forward to partnering with you to bring Hope to Homeless Children this Christmas.

David Owens, Executive Director
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