

Family to Family Holiday Program Frequently Asked Questions for **ELVES**



Each year, families, businesses and groups of friends become holiday elves for families in need in the Greater Newburyport community. These families are our neighbors and friends. Some have children in the public schools or YWCA child care programs, and some live in affordable housing in our communities.

At Family to Family, we are committed to providing joy this holiday season and we need your help to make that happen. We are looking for elves that will help fulfil a family's wish list or will help us make holiday wishes come true in other ways.

Who can I contact for more information?

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our Holiday Program Coordinator, Trish. She can be reached via email at familytofamiyywca@gmail.com or via phone at 978-572-6189.

What does an elf do to help others?

Here are some ways that elves can make the season extra special for a family in need. You can:

- Fulfill the wish list of a local family
- Be paired with another family to fulfill the wish list of a local family (we will make the match)
- Provide a holiday meal for a family (via a grocery store gift card)
- Donate filled stockings for single adults and elders
- Donate gift certificates to Wal-Mart, Marshalls, Market Basket, Dunkin Donuts, State Park pass, etc.

How do you become an elf?

Fill out an [Elf Interest Form](#) online and tell us how you'd like to be involved!

What happens after I fill out the form?

Each Elf will be matched with a family or a volunteer job that they choose and will be contacted with further information and instructions. Family matches will be completed by November 10th and drop off of gifts begins on December 1st.

What is the timeline?

- Please submit Elf Interest Forms by**November 1st**
- Elves will receive their matched families.....**on November 10th**
- Elves will drop off purchased gifts**December 1st through 5th**

Is there a deadline for signing up to be an elf?

No, elves can sign up anytime. The need is great and we will gladly accept Elf Interest Forms on a rolling basis. When an elf signs up later than November 2nd, they are often matched with other elves or given last minute requests. They may be matched with a family, be asked to donate filled stockings, or may help in another way as needed.

Where are gifts to be dropped off?

All gifts, including gift cards and stockings, are to be dropped off at Newburyport Youth Services (40 Milk St., Newburyport) between **December 1st and 5th**. A drop-off schedule will be sent to all elves.

Can I find out who I am helping or tell people about details that my family has asked for?

No. Our program is grounded in dignity and in this program, dignity translates to confidentiality. Please respect everyone involved by not discussing specifics about any elf, family or family member.

What if I know an individual or a family who needs help this holiday season?

Please refer any families that need help this holiday season to NYS's website where there will be a link for families to submit their wish lists.

What extra precautions is Family to Family taking this year due to COVID-19? Safety is our top priority. Elves will be asked to sign-up for a drop-off time so that we can limit the amount of people coming at the same time. Elves will be required to wear a mask while dropping off and must maintain 6 feet social distancing at all times. Drop-off will be outside, at the door. All volunteers and staff will be masked and screened prior to helping.

Thank you so much for your help!
We could not do this program without you!