

NEWS RELEASE



Mahoning County Children Services

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Mahoning County Children Services *Gifts for Kids Holiday Campaign* Brightens Holidays for Hundreds of Mahoning County Children

[YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO] – Today marks the official opening of the *Gifts for Kids Holiday ‘pop up’ Christmas Store* that will be open now through the holidays and into the New Year for Mahoning County Children Services’ Casework Team to ‘shop’ for Christmas gifts for children on their caseloads.

Mahoning County Children Services Annual *Gifts for Kids Holiday Campaign* ensures that all children the Agency serves receive gifts for the Christmas Holiday (see attached flyer for more campaign details).

Mahoning County Children Services has been able to make the holidays brighter and joyous for hundreds of Mahoning County Children thanks to the generous spirit of individual community donors, organizations, and businesses.

The Christmas Store is stocked with NEW toys, bikes, coats, clothing, and an amazing variety of other items for children ages infant to teens 18 years of age and EVERY age in between. Gifts collected are given to children who have an open case or Agency involvement. Often, the gifts the Agency provides for children on are the ONLY gifts the children receive for the Holidays.

“Our Annual *Gifts for Kids Holiday Campaign* truly would not be possible nor as successful in helping make the Holiday Season especially memorable and magical for children without the generous spirit of giving demonstrated by members of our Community. Each year I am humbled by the amount of support and the beautiful gifts donated to our *Gifts for Kids Holiday Campaign*,” states Jennifer Kollar, Public Information Officer and *Gifts for Kids Holiday Campaign* Director, Mahoning County Children Services. “In fact, our ‘pop up’ Christmas Store has grown to the point that we had to relocate to much bigger space within our Agency. That is an AMAZING testament to the support we receive from our Community donors,” adds Kollar.

How to Participate: There are several ways the community can participate in the Annual *Gifts for Kids Holiday Campaign*:

- Sponsor a Child’s Wish List (available at the end of October)
- Monetary donations (all year long)
- Gift Card Donations (especially for teens)
- Donate NEW toys, coats, or any items appropriate for children/teens. Suggestion Lists available.

For more information: **Contact:** Jennifer Kollar, Public Information officer, Mahoning County Children Services

330.941.8888 or via email: Jennifer.Kollar@jfs.ohio.gov

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Mahoning County Children Services: www.mahoningkids.com Mahoning County Children Services is the public agency responsible for helping abused, neglected and dependent children in Mahoning County. The Agency is committed to providing a healthy, secure environment for each child in our care. **Mission:** *Mahoning County Children Services, in partnership with the community, is a committed leader in protecting children while helping to preserve families.*