



# HOLIDAY ANGEL Donor Guidelines & FAQ

The following guidelines are provided with the intention of simplifying your shopping experience. We value each and every one of our Holiday Angels, and we don't want to curb your creativity! Our recommendation is to purchase what you are comfortable with, as we know that each gift is given with an open heart, caring and generosity towards someone in need.

Below is a sample budget to indicate the financial commitment of being a Holiday Angel. We would like to emphasize that this is a rough estimate, based on some of the most common 'wish' items and average prices (based on a shopping trip to Walmart). Wish lists vary greatly from family to family, and prices may vary depending on where items are purchased.

***Holiday Angels with small or large budgets are more than welcome to participate!***

<b>SAMPLE BUDGET – Approximate cost of purchasing gifts for 1 ADULT &amp; 1 CHILD</b>			
Please note that this budget is a <b>SAMPLE ONLY</b> , based on prices at Walmart. Prices may vary depending on where items are purchased, and the items requested. Two adults will not necessarily equal \$700, as one family would not require two sets of household items such as pots/pans, dishes, cutlery, etc.			
<b>ADULT</b>		<b>CHILD</b>	
Winter coat, hat scarf, gloves	\$85	Snowsuit (gift card)	\$50
Winter boots (gift card)	\$55	Winter boots (gift card)	\$50
Bedding (i.e. pillows, sheets, duvet)	\$50	Winter hat, gloves & scarf	\$15
Towels	\$15	Clothing (i.e. jeans, sweater)	\$30
Toiletries	\$20	Socks/underwear	\$15
Household items (i.e. pots/pans, dishes, cutlery, small appliances)	\$50	Book or toy	\$25
Food voucher	\$100	Backpack	\$20
		Twin sheets & duvet	\$70
		Food voucher	\$50
<b>TOTAL \$375</b>		<b>TOTAL \$325</b>	

**Thank you for participating in the Holiday Angel Program.  
We sincerely hope that it will be a memorable and fulfilling experience!**

***As one recipient shared.....***

***“I hope you have a wonderful holiday season, and please know that you have truly made a difference in my life.”***

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **How do I know the family assigned to me is in need of a Holiday Angel?**

Each family is currently registered with New Circles. During intake, each family is interviewed and financial eligibility is verified.

### **Can I choose my family?**

If you have specific requests for a family in terms of size and ages of family members, please be sure to complete the appropriate section on the registration form. We will do our best to accommodate your request.

### **Do I get tax receipts for the gifts I purchase?**

Tax receipts will be issued for **gift cards only**. In order to qualify for a tax receipt, the gift card must be of **\$20.00** or more in value and the receipt for this purchase must be submitted to New Circles. Unfortunately, we cannot offer tax receipts for purchased (in-kind) gifts.

### **Does the recipient family know who I am?**

Holiday Angels is an anonymous gift-giving program. New Circles will not share your personal information. However, in the spirit of breaking down barriers, we encourage you to enclose a note to your family telling them about yourself.

### **How will I know that my family has received their gifts?**

We take great care in organization and accuracy. All gifts are delivered within hours of receiving them at New Circles. After the gifts have been delivered, you will receive a thank-you letter to acknowledge your participation in the program.

### **Should I wrap the gifts for my family?**

Many families, especially children, enjoy receiving some wrapped gifts, but it is not absolutely necessary. If you choose to wrap your gifts, please indicate which items are included in your basket on the provided gift list, and label each gift with your family's HAP #.

### **Why did my recipient ask for gift cards?**

For items such as winter boots that are hard to fit, we ask that donors provide gift cards to a store such as Winners or Walmart, so that recipients may shop for the styles and sizes that suit them the best.

### **What type of container should I use to pack the gifts for my family?**

We suggest packing items into practical containers such as large plastic bins, laundry baskets, hampers or a wheeled shopping bag ([click for image](#)). Shopping carts are a basic necessity for the majority of New Circles' clients, and facilitate the transportation of food and clothing for their family throughout the year.

### **Is it possible for me to give gifts to this program, if I am not registered as a Holiday Angel?**

We welcome the donation of money, gift cards, new toiletries, new toys or new household items. We are able to use these gifts to create packages for more of our families in need. If you wish to donate gift cards or other items to the program and have not registered as a Holiday Angel, please contact [andrea@newcircles.ca](mailto:andrea@newcircles.ca) to arrange your donation.