



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Fall is just beginning, but at Candlelighters we are already gearing up for the holidays! Now is the time to join us in our mission to bring hope and joy to hundreds of families through our annual **Holiday Adopt-A-Family** program!

The goal of our Holiday Adopt-A-Family program is to spread holiday cheer to Candlelighters families who find the season especially difficult while coping with a child diagnosed with cancer or having recently lost a child to cancer.

This program began in 1992 and served 21 families that year. Last year, our incredibly generous sponsors adopted over 320 families – and *1,520 family members* enjoyed a brighter holiday season! We are hoping to have an even larger impact this year, but we need your help to bring that holiday joy to our families!

This heartwarming program offers Sponsors the opportunity to personally interact with families! We connect the sponsors and families directly to coordinate meeting and gift deliveries. This direct contact is especially meaningful for the families, but has also been touching for sponsors. Our Adopt-A-Family program serves families not only in financial need, but also families in emotional need. Candlelighters recognizes that the diagnosis of childhood cancer affects the *entire* family, so we also serve siblings and parents through this program.

Enclosed you will find the **Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program Sponsor Guidelines** for you to review. By completing the **“Sponsor Wish List”** you will advise us on how many families you wish to adopt and the size of each family. You may be matched to a family of your choice: teens, bereaved, small children, Spanish speaking – just let us know on your form! Your request is matched with a family (or families) and you will be given the family’s “Holiday Wish List” – a form filled out straight from the family on what is on their gift wish list this year.

If you are unable to purchase and physically deliver gifts but would like to make a monetary donation to the Adopt-A-Family program, Candlelighters will, through your donation, purchase gifts for families.

If you are interested in sponsoring a family or donating to the **Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program**, please complete the enclosed “Sponsor Wish List” and mail it as soon as possible to:

Candlelighters
ATTN: Carly Bradshaw
12919 Southwest Freeway, Suite 100
Stafford, Texas 77477

-OR-

Email to Program Director Carly Bradshaw at
cbradshaw@candle.org or Fax to 713.270.9802.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carly at 713.270.4700 or cbradshaw@candle.org.





2019

Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program

SPONSOR GUIDELINES

The purpose of Adopt-A-Family is to assist childhood cancer families during a time of great emotional crisis and/or financial need. These families are either coping with a child diagnosed with cancer, have a child survivor of cancer, or they have lost a child to cancer. To ensure that this is a rewarding and positive experience for both the families and the sponsors, we ask that you adhere to the following guidelines:

- Please fill out the enclosed “Sponsor Wish List.” Candlelighters will assign a family to each sponsor based on your form. Special requests for single parent families, children on treatment, teenagers, or a family from a specific area of Houston will be honored when possible.
- Please return your form ASAP. The sooner you return your form, the better chance we have to pair you with a family that fits your specifications, and the quicker we can match families and accept more into the program!
- Sponsors wishing to purchase and deliver gifts for a family will be provided with a “Holiday Gift List” from their adopted family. When you receive your adopted family’s list, we encourage you to call the family, let them know that you are their sponsor, and start corresponding about a day to meet them and drop off gifts.
- We request that you purchase a maximum of three gifts totaling \$50 or less for each family member. Candlelighters treats the whole family, so a diagnosed child should not be singled out for more, or more extravagant, gifts.
- If your adopted family does not provide an extensive list, here are some popular gift ideas:
 - Gift Certificates from: Target, Walmart, popular family dining restaurants, clothing stores, movie theaters, zoo passes, Chuck-E-Cheese, gas cards, drug stores to help with over-the-counter medical supplies.

Gifts for your adopted family are to be new with tags/in the box, gift wrapped, and delivered by sponsors no later than December 15th.

Sponsors are encouraged to purchase and deliver gifts to the families personally. For people who would like to participate but are not able to deliver or work within the guidelines, monetary donations for the Holiday Adopt-A-Family are accepted as well. Volunteers will shop, wrap, and deliver the gifts to the families with donations received for this program. Sponsors wishing to make monetary donations need only complete the applicable sections of the “Sponsor Wish List” and mail it along with their donation to the Candlelighters office. Please contact the Candlelighters office at 713.270.4700 to make credit card payment. **Please note: monetary donations can also be used to purchase generic gifts for families who unexpectedly find themselves in the hospital during the holidays.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Program Director Carly Bradshaw at cbradshaw@candle.org, or call the office (713.270.4700) and speak with Gay Foust or Carly Bradshaw.



OFFICE USE ONLY
Family of: _____
Wish List sent on: _____

**2019 Adopt-A-Family for the Holidays
SPONSOR WISH LIST**

SPONSOR INFORMATION:

Sponsor Name (Group or Individual): _____

Contact Name: _____

Telephone: Home _____ Work _____

Cell _____ Fax _____

E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

ADOPTION INFORMATION:

NOTE: Candlelighters' families are asked to request a maximum of three gifts totaling \$50 or less per family member.

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE: Purchase & Deliver Gifts --OR-- Monetary Donation

COMPLETE INFORMATION BELOW IF PURCHASING GIFTS:

How many families would you like to adopt? _____

Size of Family/Families to be Adopted: _____

Many of our families speak Spanish - are you able to adopt a Spanish speaking family? Yes No

I will take a family **anywhere** in the greater Houston area: Yes No

If making a monetary donation, please make check payable to *Candlelighters* and enclose your donation with the "Sponsor Wish List." Visa, Mastercard and American Express are accepted. Please call the Candlelighters' office at 713.270.4700 to donate by credit card. Candlelighters will use the funds to purchase gifts for a family in need.

Please mail, email or fax "Sponsor Wish List" to:

**Candlelighters
12919 Southwest Freeways, Suite 100
Stafford, Texas 77477
Fax: 713.270.9802
Email: cbradshaw@candle.org**