



2021 Holiday Giving Assistance Community Guide

INFORMATION FOR DONORS

Many thanks to all of our Howard County residents, groups, schools, businesses, and faith congregations who helped us support community families and individuals in need of holiday assistance in 2020, the first year of unique challenges related to the COVID pandemic. Because of your generosity we provided gift cards to 113 households, including 60 families, a 41 percent increase over previous years when we held events with donated items. Due to ongoing health and safety concerns and the ability to serve more people in need we are planning to distribute **gift cards only** for holiday giving gifts again this year, adding a grocery card to further assist families experiencing continued financial and food insecurity.

- Gift cards in \$25 or \$50 amounts from Walmart, Target and Amazon (physical cards only, no digital cards) would allow individuals to select toys, clothing and other items for their families.
- Gift cards of \$25 or \$50 from Giant Food, Safeway, Aldi's, or Weis Markets would help purchase food or prescription medication.
- In order to allocate these gifts in a timely manner to our community residents we are asking for the cards to be delivered by **Friday, December 10, 2021**.
- In addition, we can also use gift cards for gas stations throughout the year to assist community members with transportation needs.

Thank you for considering donating gift cards to help us safeguard the health and well-being of our community members and to serve more people in need. For more information and to coordinate gift card deliveries please contact Monteith Mitchell, Volunteer Coordinator, at mont@grassrootscrisis.org or (410) 531-6006.

INFORMATION FOR CONSUMERS

This year we will once again distribute gift cards for individuals and families needing holiday assistance. Our plan is to offer a retail card and a grocery card. However the number of gift cards available will depend on the donations received.

- **Signups for holiday assistance will begin at 10am on Tuesday, Dec. 7 and continue through Monday, Dec. 13 or until all of the spots are filled. Cards will be distributed Dec. 15-18 based on assigned times.** To register contact Monteith Mitchell at (410) 531-6006 or mont@grassrootscrisis.org and best wishes to you and yours for the holiday season!