



# Help "Operation Santa Claus" bring joy at the holidays!



Please help make the holiday season special for lonely patients at local psychiatric treatment facilities by contributing gifts to the Mental Health Association's annual Operation Santa Claus program.

"Operation Santa Claus" is collecting gifts for 200 patients, all of which are children or adolescents under 18 years, for distribution at the local facilities described below. For safe handling, we request that no glass containers or sharp objects be donated.

### **The Jefferson School (ages 12 – 18)**

Provides special education, mental health, and intensive residential treatment services for adolescents with behavioral and emotional disabilities. \*Gifts are being collected for 55 adolescents

### **Way Station Family Preservation Unit (ages 2 – 17)**

The Way Station offers a wide range of services for adults with serious mental illness to lead a purposeful life. The Family Preservation Unit provides intensive, in-home services designed to help families resolve crises and stay together. Serving the children of adults at Way Station, many of these families may be dealing with substance abuse, incarceration, or the children may be returning home from a recent foster care placement. \*Gifts are being collected for 45 children and adolescents

### **Thomas B. Finan Center (ages 12 – 18)**

119-bed inpatient psychiatric hospital operated by the State of Maryland. \*Gift are being collected for 18 children and adolescents

### **Child/Adolescent Partial Hospitalization Program at Brook Lane (ages 4 – 18)**

A program which allows children/adolescent in crisis to remain in a home-like setting while receiving intensive psychiatric treatment; the end goal is to prevent future psychiatric hospitalizations. \*Gift are being collected for 18 children and adolescents

### **Stone Bridge Transitional Care Home at Brook Lane (ages 5 – 17)**

A facility which provides housing and treatment for children and adolescents who are in crisis and temporarily without an appropriate place to stay and do not meet the criteria for inpatient care. The goal is to provide housing and crisis intervention to facilitate the transition of the child from one setting to another. \*Gifts are being collected for 28 children and adolescents

### General gift ideas for children 5-12:

Winter coats, hats, gloves, clothing items, socks, pajamas, slippers, dolls, stuffed animals, dolls, action figures, games, video games, puzzles, coloring books, crayons, art supplies, craft kits, play-doh, books, sports equipment, scooters, train sets, educational activities, backpacks, watches, play jewelry, and board games.

### General gift ideas for adolescents 12-18:

Winter coats, hats, gloves, socks, sports jerseys, fashionable clothing items (L or XL), pajamas, robes, slippers, underwear, cologne, CD's, DVD's, MP3 players, CD players or small radios, video games, art supplies, coloring books, stationary, pens/pencils, diaries, playing cards, puzzles, board games, AA batteries, sports equipment, books, backpacks, jewelry, watches, and sunglasses.

Also see specific requests below.

### Specific gift requests for adolescents 12-18:

**Clothing:** Sports jerseys and hats, plaid shirts, t-shirts, hooded sweatshirts

**Electronics:** Digital cameras, MP3 players, iPods, walkie talkies, night vision binoculars

**Sports:** Basketball, football, skateboard, scooters

**Gift Certificates:** Borders, Bath & Body Works, music stores (Sam Goody, FYE, etc), Target, WalMart, or any trendy teen store.

**Please deliver unwrapped gifts to MHA by December 12, 2007.**

Contact Cheryl Evans at 301-663-0011 Ext. 137 or [cevans@fcmha.org](mailto:cevans@fcmha.org)

MHA's office is open from 8:30-4:30 weekdays, and we are located at 263 W. Patrick St, Frederick, MD 21701