

## **Supporter FAQ**

### **Winter Family Giving 2020**

#### **Who is Friends of the Children?**

Impacting generational change, Friends of the Children–Seattle identifies youth facing the greatest obstacles like poverty and racism, and connects them with professional mentors who empower them to develop their greatest potential and achieve their goals. From kindergarten through graduation, no matter what, mentors provide 16 hours of one-on-one support for our youth each month. [Learn more about our program here.](#)

#### **How does Winter Family Giving Work?**

Every year, we invite generous companies and members of the community to support our families by providing them with basic necessities and gifts to make their winter season brighter.

Each family participating in our Winter Family Giving program will submit a wish list for gift cards for each family member under 18 in the program youth's household. Wish lists will also include a gift card for the whole family.

For example, a wish list might include a Fred Meyer gift card for a big family shopping trip, a GameStop gift card for a program youth to play Roblox online with their mentor, and a Target gift card for a sibling to start a new art project.

- \$150-250 supports a small family (1-3 individuals)
- \$250-350 supports a medium family (4-5 individuals)
- \$400+ supports a large family (6+ Individuals)

#### **How do I get paired with a Family?**

Sign up to support a family and fulfill their specific wish list by filling out this form:

<https://forms.gle/cgKhoioT3dXmX23m9>

#### **Why only gift cards this year?**

Due to COVID-19, we are exclusively accepting gift cards so our families can order their gifts in a way that is safe for them while still fostering family moments.

Gift cards to stores offer families the most flexibility to provide warm clothes, games and toys, and household items to their families. It means so much to families when they have more freedom in choosing fun gifts and needed items. Gift cards will empower parents and caregivers to buy the things they want and need.

#### **Who receives gift cards?**

Our program youth, their siblings, and their family receive gifts cards so no one is excluded and everyone gets to feel special.

### **How much should I spend on gift cards?**

We suggest that each youth in the household under the age of 18 receive a \$50 gift card to stores according to their wish list. We also suggest that supporters provide a family gift card between \$75-\$150 depending on family size.

### **How many families are in Friends' program?**

This year we have over 230 youth in our program and more than 1,000 members in the families we serve. We hope you will join us in brightening a family's winter season!

### **What is the timeline for participating in Winter Family Giving?**

- *Oct 21:* Our families complete their wish lists
- *Oct 26:* Staff at Friends begins to pair families with donors.
- *Nov 11:* Last day to sign-up to participate in getting paired with a family. Our Winter Family Fund will stay open until Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.
- *Nov 11-Dec 4:* Please deliver your gift cards.
- *Dec 7:* Mentors pick-up gift cards from the Friends office and deliver to families.

### **How do I drop off my gift cards?**

There are three ways to do this:

- **Email** your gift card to ([sierra@friendsseattle.org](mailto:sierra@friendsseattle.org)) with the receipt. Have the subject line be "Winter Family Giving Your *First & Last Name*."
- **Drop-off** your gift card with the receipt and include your first and last name at the Friends' office. There will be specific drop-off dates and times to make sure you and our staff can be safe during these times. Please coordinate with Sierra Wagner ([sierra@friendsseattle.org](mailto:sierra@friendsseattle.org))
- **Mail** your gift card with the receipt and include your first and last name. Mail your gift card to:  
Friends of the Children – Seattle  
ATTN: Winter Family Giving  
PO Box 18886  
Seattle, WA 98118

In order for our families to have time to shop for their gifts and necessities, we request that gift cards be delivered to our office **no later than the week after Thanksgiving (Nov. 30-Dec. 4)**.

Thank you for being a part of our community, no matter what!

**"Thank you so much for being a supporter. You bring so much joy to our girls faces when they feel cared for by your kindness!" -Program parent**