



MINNESOTA

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Program Adoption Options

These items should be UNWRAPPED and placed in a bag/box coded with the appropriate label, as indicated below.

Please contact Kristin Cook at 952.945.4039 or kcook@voamn.org with any questions or to register.

PROGRAMS SERVING AT-RISK YOUTH

(CODE "VOAEC") Our Alternative Secondary School serves at-risk youth living at or below the poverty level. Kids come to VOA because they have not been successful in the large, traditional school settings. VOA's small size and student-centered program addresses the complex needs of these students and their families.

- Sports equipment (basketballs, footballs, double Dutch jump ropes)
- Toiletries (toothbrushes, combs, deodorant, Kleenex)
- First aid supplies (ice packs and band-aids)
- Sleeping bags (gently used is fine too)
- Reams of 8 ½ x 11 copy paper
- Overhead projector
- Dictionaries
- Staplers and staples
- Pencil sharpeners
- Feminine hygiene products
- 2 pocket folders
- Sharpie permanent markers
- Dry eraser markers, erasers, white board cleaner
- Masking tape
- White out
- Gift cards to cub, rainbow, target, or wal-mart (these gift cards are used for rewarding students for academic progress or behavioral improvement)

Each year we try to take our younger kids on a camping trip; most have never been out of the city. At camp they are taught astronomy, animal behavior, wilderness training, and the simple pleasure and camaraderie of a campfire. A gift of \$100 will ensure one child can experience this memorable event.

(CODE “BAR”) BAR NONE is a children’s residential and treatment center serving kids ages 10-17. Program participants have limited and sometimes no contact with family members, some kids are orphaned or wards of the state.

- Twin size sheets, extra-long
- Twin size blankets -Current sheets and blankets are old and worn, and scratchy
- Twin-size comforters, for same reason as above.
- Lightweight curtains or King-size pillow cases to cover windows
- Books on African-American, African, Native-American, and Hispanic culture (used is fine)
- DVD player or VCR – gently used is fine (2)
- Puzzles (1000 piece or 3-D especially)
- Board Games (Trouble, Sorry, Monopoly, Life, Yahtzee)
- Basketballs (3)
- Footballs (2)
- Playstation 2 games (NBA Street, Madden 09) (2 each)
- Handheld games (Solitaire, Yahtzee) (2)
- Kinex (4 sets)
- Pots and pans/skillets
- Electric Skillet (1)
- Relaxation CDs
- Variety of PG-13 movies – the less violent and more positive the message, the better
- Belts (variety of male sizes)
- Winter hats and gloves (variety of male sizes – mostly M and L)
- The Juvenile Justice and Residential Care Treatment Planner, by Wiley Publishing (2) www.wiley.com/practiceplanners, also through Amazon?
- The Adolescent Psychotherapy Treatment Planner by Wiley Publishing (2)
- The Family Therapy Treatment Planner, by Wiley Publishing (2)
- DSM-IV-TR pocket manual (2)
- “You Can Control Your Anger Game Book”, “Anger Control Cards”, and/or “Anger Management Speedway Game” – www.selfesteemworkshop.com (1 ea.)

(CODE “CRTC”) Children’s Residential & Treatment Center-located in Minneapolis. Serving 24 kids, ages 11-17 years old.

- Arts and crafts supplies/kits
- Misc. art supplies (construction paper, tempera paint, brushes, etc.)
- Hair accessories
- Board games/decks of cards
- Make-up and organizers
- Stuffed animals
- Hand-held electronic games (non-violent)
- Personal hygiene products (shampoos, conditioners, lotions, etc.)
- Sports equipment (basketballs, soccer balls, ice skates)
- Pool table accessories (wall cue stick rack, cue sticks, chalk, balls, etc.)
- Bocce ball set
- Gift cards to Target, Best Buy, or Wal-Mart
- Winter jackets and coats (men's and women's sizes)
- Winter hats and mittens
- Foam Dodge balls
- Swimming pool dive rings & float rings

(CODE “AVANTP”) Avanti Center for Girls-located in Minneapolis. Serving 20 teen girls, ages 13-18 years old.

Avanti is a children’s residential and treatment center serving girls ages 10-17. Our girls have limited and in most cases, no contact with family members. Many of the girls are orphaned or wards of the state. Typically when a girl arrives she may have little to no personal belongings.

- Make-up/ make-up organizers
- Hair accessories (small and large hair-binders), brushes, mirrors
- Hair products (African-American- jam, grease, pink lotion)
- Jeans (variety of sizes)
- T-shirts/long sleeve shirts
- Pajamas (variety of sizes)
- Flip-flops and slippers (with rubber soles sizes 6-9)
- Journals
- Duffle Bags
- Arts & Crafts kits (tie-dye, bead/jewelry kits, bracelets, construction paper)
- Socks (7-9)
- Bras (variety of cup sizes and sports bras)
- Underwear (sizes small, medium, large, XL)
- Winter hats and mittens
- Gift cards (increments of \$10.00) to Target for rewarding either academic/behavioral goals
- Basketballs
- Foam Dodge balls
- Jump-ropes
- Bocce ball set
- Bowling set (plastic)
- Winter jackets
- Board games for teenagers
- Books (ages 16-17)
- Portable CD players
- CD’s –rap, hip-hop, country (edited)
- Nail polish (variety of colors)
- Manicure, Pedicure, Spa sets (facial masks)
- Comforters (twin-size)
- DVD’s (PG-13)
- Educational DVD’s
- Flat Irons (hair straighter), blow-dryers, curling irons
- Yoga/Pilates mats
- Work-out DVD’s
- Stationary sets
- Scrapbook accessories

PROGRAMS SERVING LOW-INCOME SENIOR CITIZENS

(CODE “NRTH”) North Community Center, DayElder program.

- Nintendo Wii (with Wii sports game)
- Beads and supplies for jewelry making
- Prizes for Bingo games (small dollar store type items)
- Kleenex
- Snack items (crackers/goldfish/cheese crackers,etc.)
- Plastic silverware (spoons/forks)
- Construction Paper (variety of colors)
- Unpainted wood frames 4x6, 5X7 or similar (for art projects)
- Hot Cocoa mix/ Tea Packets (decaffeinated)
- White 100% cotton t-shirts sizes L,XL, XXL (4-5 of each) for tie-dye
- Bags of individual small candy bars
- Gift Cards (Dollar Tree, Target, Cub Foods, etc)
- Concentrated Juice Cans (cranberry, apple, etc.)
- Arts & Crafts Supplies (paper, Elmer’s glue, markers, colored pencils)
- Office Supplies (Pencils, pens, Staplers, etc.)
- Colored office paper (various pastel colors)
- Board Games, trivia games
- History related DVD’s (PBS, History Channel type videos)
- Karaoke CD’s (able to play in Karaoke machine)
- Blank DVD+R Discs
- Air Freshener spray
- Disposable gloves for food serving
- AA and AAA Batteries

(CODE “NPARK”) Residents at our North Park Plaza senior housing facility:

- Bar soap, dish soap, laundry detergent
- Personal Hygiene products (lotions, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.)
- Stuffed animals (these are great for Bingo prizes and birthdays. In the case of residents returning from a stay in the hospital, they offer a bit of extra comfort)

(CODE “SWSC”) Southwest Senior Center, a community center offering programs, activities, and meals for low-income senior citizens.

- AV/TV cart on wheels (our is on it’s last legs and extremely wobbly)
- Wii game system
- 50 recognition gifts for Center volunteers to include: small tote bag, ♦note cards, stamps, lotion
- 50 word search puzzle books for Brain-a-thon
- 25 cross word puzzle books for Brain-a-thon

(CODE “RSVP”) Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) supports senior (55+) volunteers in 222 Non-profit agencies across the Metro area. The volunteers unselfishly offer their time and talents in many areas especially the focus areas of Education, Homeland Security, Human Services and Environment.

- 30 recognition gifts suitable for active seniors. (anything from gift cards, gloves, baskets of health and beauty aids, baskets with tea and coffee selections, tickets to the arts.)
- Gas cards
- Gift cards (CUB, Rainbow, Target)

(CODE “EC”) Experience Corps members are older adults who tutor K-3rd grade students for 15 hours/week in Minneapolis and St. Paul schools. In addition to academic support, the tutors are friends and mentors for young people who need extra help building self-esteem.

60 Tutor supply bags including the following items:

- Breath mints/lifesavers
- Hand/body lotion (small)
- Antibacterial lotion
- Phone Cards
- Bus Cards
- Gas Cards

Training materials:

- Gift cards to Cub or Rainbow (lunch on training days)
- 1" plain ring binders (55)
- Section dividers for 55 ring binders

\$500 supports one tutor volunteering 450 hours/year (15 hours/week during the school year)

(CODE “MM”) The AARP Money Management Program offers money management services to help low-income seniors or those with disabilities who have difficulty budgeting, paying routine bills and keeping track of financial matters. The goal of the program is to prolong independent living for individuals who are at risk of losing their independence due inability to manage their financial affairs.

- Accordion folders, heavy duty (40 count)
- Pocket date books (40 count) large print (20 count)

(CODE “TF”) Telefriend volunteers make telephone calls from their home to children aged six to twelve, who would benefit from having a telephone friend. Children receive free age-appropriate books to read aloud to their Telefriend over the phone—copies of the same book are sent to the Telefriend volunteer who follows along to help the child improve their reading skills.

- Note cards, stationery, and stamps
- Activity/color/sticker books for children
- Card games (example: Go Fish)
- Decorative pencils for children
- 50 bottles of lotion
- 50 bottles of shampoo

(CODE “PE”) Park ElderCenter is a welcoming, comfortable community center that offers a wide range of services to support the health and independence of older adults.

- Lap blankets
- Postage stamps
- Bus card
- Slippers with rubber soles
- Pill boxes
- Magnifying glasses (hand held)
- Large print calendars
- Bath mats
- Gardening tools/gloves
- Steering wheel covers for cars
- Car seat cushions
- Batteries
- Ink pens
- Stationary sets
- Envelopes
- Heating pads
- Small electric heaters
- Shower curtains
- Hygiene products
- Toiletries
- Kleenex / toilet tissue
- Hats and glove sets
- Puzzles
- Word find books
- Coffee makers
- Personal planners
- Playing cards
- Gift cards – Target, Walgreens, Cub (\$5 - \$10)
- Small fans
- Kitchen towels
- Laundry detergent
- Silver ware
- Cook ware

CORRECTIONS PROGRAMS

(CODE "RC") The VOARC is a residential center for men being released from federal prisons and preparing to re-integrate into the community. VOARC works with the men to develop skills and gain employment in the community. The program provides these men with a strong support system, and helps them get their lives back on track and avoid future incarceration.

Facility/Program Needs:

- Thank you cards – for residents to send to potential employers after interviews
- Mesh laundry bags
- Envelopes and stamps – for residents to send resumes or thank you cards
- Pad Folders/Pad Folios – for residents to organize and plan job seeking.

Individual Needs (80 of each)

- Gloves (10 medium, 40 large, 30 extra large)
- Winter hats
- Planners/organizers for 2008
- Target/Rainbow/Cub gift cards (to purchase personal hygiene items and/or interview clothes)

***Gift cards to grocery stores and discount retailers are always appreciated and will be distributed to families or kids with unique situations who are unable to participate in the formal sponsorship program.