



Are you in need of holiday assistance?

DuPage County Free Christmas and Holiday Assistance.

https://www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/dupage_county_free_christmas_and.html

Christmas toys, meals and gifts are provided to some low-income families in DuPage County. The majority of the primary agencies to contact are noted below. They may not only help during the Christmas holiday season, but some charities or town offices will also offer Thanksgiving meals as well.

The goal of most of these organizations is to spread joy throughout the community. A child from a struggling household should not go without a present (whether a toy or clothing) to open Christmas morning. In addition, senior citizens and the disabled should have some type of free meal as well as companionship. These groups of individuals are many of the main beneficiaries of the holiday programs in the region.

Gifts are provided first come first served and are limited. Register at one of the DuPage County agencies as early as possible for assistance, or even ask a local town office for referrals to toy programs, as many of them also provide help.

Society of St. Vincent DePaul

Address is 213 Main St., West Chicago, Illinois, 60185, 630-562-4801

This charity is part of the Toys for Tots program of DuPage County. They pass out gifts to those families with children that meet the criteria in place. The toys are new and donated from the public. Examples may be dolls for girls, trucks, games, and new clothing too, including winter coats.

Vouchers for clothing

While not just available during the holidays (it runs year round), and not specifically a Christmas service, the county provides referrals to this for very low-income families/people in poverty. Winter attire, hats, boots, gloves, and more may be offered. The applicant needs to be referred through Client Services (630-407-6500). It is run in partnership with charities such as Repeat Boutique and pantries.

Humanitarian Service Project

465 Randy Road, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188, (630) 221-8340

Senior citizens and children from DuPage County can get help from the Christmas Offering. Gifts are given to the needy.

Bloomington Township

Address is 123 North Rosedale Road, Bloomington, IL 60108-1094, for information, call (630) 529-9993.

Only residents of the town can apply to the free Christmas Toy program for their child.



Love Christian Clearinghouse

(630) 512-8665

The ministries that are part of this church group offer toys and other aid. There may be transportation, financial aid, referrals to places that serve hot meals, free winter clothing, and other Christmas gifts.

Salvation Army season programs

These centers help the vulnerable and working poor. The assistance is combined with case management. During the fall and winter, donations are used from Adopt-a-Family to provide Christmas or Thanksgiving meals, toys, presents, and more. There is also home delivery for seniors, shelter, referrals, and other support. Find more details on [Salvation Army programs in DuPage County](#).

Naperville Township

139 Water Street, Naperville, Illinois 60540, (630) 355-2786

Families need to live in the town.

Sharing Connections Furniture Bank

5111 Chase Avenue, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515, (630) 971-0565

Anyone seeking help needs a referral first. Only then may the non-profit offer toys to children of income qualified DuPage County residents.

Lisle Township

Address: 4711 Indiana Avenue, Lisle, IL 60532, Telephone number is (630) 968-2087

Holiday help is for town residents.

Special Kids Day

535 Spring Road, Elmhurst, Illinois 60126

Each year DuPage County holds a Special Kids Day for low-income families. This event gives special needs children and children with disabilities their own Christmas party where they receive stocking stuffers, food, and free gifts. Visit their website to sign up or learn more about the Special Kids Day event.

<https://www.specialkidsday.org/>

Township Trustees

In addition to the resources above, many other local towns in DuPage County coordinate holiday programs too. They try to raise money or goods from the community to provide clothing, toys, winter coats, and more. Those on government benefits can check with their town or social worker.

St. Mary's Gostyn

444 Wilson Street, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515, Main phone - 630-969-1063

The church can serve free holidays meals (Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas) to the homeless and people living in poverty or with nowhere else to go.



Green Harvest- food pantry <https://www.greenharvest.org/>

Low Income Relief <https://lowincomerelief.com/free-christmas-gifts-food-dupage-county-il/>

Catholic Charities Holiday Outreach Program. Residents of DuPage County can receive gifts and gift certificates during the holidays from the Catholic Charities Holiday Outreach Program. Each family in need completes a Christmas wish list of items they want and donor families will give them money or gift certificate donations to help them get the items on their list. <https://catholiccharitiesjoliet.org/holiday-outreach-program/>

Bloomington Township Sharing Tree. The Bloomington Township places a Christmas tree decorated with paper Christmas bells at each of their township offices from mid November to mid December. These paper bells are given to children of low-income families to fill out; which are then taken by people and organizations willing to help. These organizations and people buy the items on the bell, wrap them, and place them under the tree in the office. <https://www.bloomingtontownship.com/services/general-assistance-department>

Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program. Families suffering from low-income can sign their children up for the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program. Once signed up, anonymous donors will "adopt" your children and give your family with clothes and toys for Christmas. They also hold annual sit down Christmas dinners that include free food, stocking stuffers, and food pantry items. For more information or to sign up for the Angel Tree Program, you can find it on their website. <https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/oakbrook/> For Aurora, North Aurora, Montgomery, or Oswego <https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/aurorail/angel-tree-holiday-assistance-registration/>

DuPage County Toys For Tots. Toys For Tots sets donation boxes out to gather toys for low-income families in DuPage County. These toys are then distributed to families in need before Christmas. To request toys or learn more about Toys for Tots in Dupage County, visit their website and click request toys. <https://www.toysfortots.org/>

Catholic Charities Diocese Of Joliet. DuPage County community members who suffer from low-income can sign up for the Catholic Charities Diocese of Joliet holiday program. Your family is assigned to sponsor families and people who will give you money, gifts, food, and clothing during the holiday season. <https://catholiccharitiesjoliet.org/gift-of-christmas/>



Looking for a way to give back to the community this holiday season?

Many of the organizations listed above are looking for volunteers, donations, or for families to adopt a family for Christmas. From food pantries to local animal shelters, there are plenty of opportunities to lend a helping hand in the Naperville area.

Feeding America- There is no better way to celebrate the holidays than giving back. Your local soup kitchen, food pantry, or food bank rely on volunteers to help make the holidays a special for families in need. Whether it is serving meals on thanksgiving or Christmas or preparing holiday meal boxes- you can make a difference.

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/take-action/volunteer/holidays>

Loaves & Fishes Community Pantry

How You Can Help: Loaves & Fishes distributes more than 60,000 pounds of groceries and serves approximately 600 families every week, according to the organization's website. Volunteers work in a variety of areas including distribution, sorting, shelving and office assistance. The pantry also accepts canned food donations as well as store gift certificates so families can purchase turkeys or hams for the holidays.

Contact: For questions call 630-355-3663 or visit <http://www.loaves-fishes.org/>.

DuPage Children's Museum

How You Can Help: Many roles are available for museum volunteers, who can greet visitors, play with children, assist in the art studio or offices, help with special events, build or repair exhibits, help with building or landscape maintenance and more. Volunteers with special skills such as photography, storytelling, graphic design, sewing and others are also welcomed. The minimum age to volunteer is 15 years old. A reference and criminal background check are required as part of the application process.

Contact: For more information, contact the museum's volunteer coordinator at 630-637-8000, ext. 4680.



Naperville Area Humane Society

How You Can Help: Naperville Area Humane Society's volunteer program is open to anyone 10 years or older with a willingness to work on behalf of cats and dogs. Kids 10 to 15 years old are welcome to volunteer as long as they have an adult sponsor to volunteer with them, according to the NAHS website.

Contact: For more information, call 630-420-8989 or visit <http://www.napervilleareahumanesociety.org>

Green Harvest Food Pantry

How You Can Help: For residents living in south Naperville, Green Harvest Food Pantry is just a few minutes away in North Plainfield. The pantry is always looking for donations of canned foods as well as new volunteers to help.

Contact: For more information, call 630-416-1109 or visit <http://greenharvest.org>

Naperville Public Library

How You Can Help: You do not have to be a bookworm to volunteer at any of Naperville Public Library's three locations. Opportunities for adult and teen volunteers include sorting materials to be shelved, assisting a department with weekly assignments, office assistance, surveys and working on occasional special projects.

Operation Welcome You Home

How You Can Help: Operation Welcome You Home focuses on coordinating flag lines, motorcycle convoys and groups of supporters for servicemen who are returning home. Helpers are needed to coordinate the ornate homecomings for military men and women throughout the Chicagoland area. <http://www.welcomyouhome.org/>.