



Magical Memories

What memories flood your mind when you hear the word, "Christmas"? For many people, there are magical memories of singing along with carols on the radio, trying to sleep while listening for sleigh bells and reindeer hooves, tearing into presents under the tree, sharing a family meal, smiles, hugs and an atmosphere of joy. Now, imagine being a parent unable to give your child the memories and excitement of opening presents from Santa on Christmas morning, or being an elder feeling left out with no gifts at all.

The Christmas Mother Committee exists to ensure that, in our community, no family is without food, no child is without toys, books and clothing, and no elderly person is forgotten as we celebrate the holidays. Volunteers have worked countless hours for over forty years in an effort to give our needy children and elders magical memories of the Christmas holiday. However, we cannot achieve our mission without support from individuals, groups, and businesses here in the community. Last year we helped 1,281 families and 125 elders for a total of 4,819 persons assisted. If you would like to be a part of this effort, there are several avenues you may use:

-  **Sponsor** a family or senior citizen by providing Christmas gifts and a food gift card
-  **Donate** new toys, clothing and books for children, or gifts for seniors
-  **Contribute** a monetary donation for the committee to purchase food gift cards, clothing, toys and books for persons that are not sponsored. United Way donations may also be designated for the Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Christmas Mother.
-  **Volunteer** your time at the Christmas Center. This year the Center will be open December 11, 12, and 13 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
-  **Support** one of our fund raising events (Jingle Run in July and the Live/Silent Auction in November) Details may be found on our web site.

If you wish to sponsor a family or senior citizen or if you wish to volunteer to help at the Christmas Center, please contact our office at 748-1183 or 751-4657; or you may e-mail the committee at cchchristmasmother@gmail.com beginning October 1. Donations may be sent directly to the address above.

I wish for you and your loved ones magical memories this Christmas season. Please consider helping us give magical memories to our community members in need.

Thank you,

Jeanne Hensel

2017 Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Christmas Mother