

THE VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN FIFE - CHRISTMAS COLLECTION 2020

There is no doubt that times are very hard for everyone. Once again many families are living in desperate circumstances made even harder by the effects of Covid-19. They need us even more and are hoping we can still help them. Everything donated is given straight to the families.

WHAT IS NEEDED?

- Toys, books, games, new clothes, pyjamas, jewellery etc. or any fun presents for children of all ages (including teenagers) - this year there are about 100 children between 1 and 5. Also second hand bikes are great as long as they are in safe condition;
- Presents for the parents – over 50% of the families have a parent with mental health problems -the pressure of Christmas can be too much and a thought for them goes a long way;
- Christmas treats e.g. selection boxes, tins of biscuits, sweets and savoury treats which are not too perishable;
- Christmas wrapping paper or gift bags ; and
- **CASH DONATIONS** – these are used to buy Asda vouchers for food as food banks are under huge pressure and the number of visits is restricted. It will be used to buy Christmas dinners for families. The money always provides an emergency fund to help families who need urgent help with accommodation and essential items like beds and duvets for children, cookers, fridges and washing machines. The number of families fleeing domestic abuse or breaking down have increased because of lockdown. The Faculty cash donation is ring-fenced so it is used only for the needs of the families.
- **Members can donate via their Faculty Services Ltd account (just email me with the amount and your code) or anyone can do so via a cheque payable to Faculty Services Ltd. Please complete a gift aid form (<https://intranet.advocates.org.uk/MEMBERS/Pages/MembersHomePage.aspx>) if you have not done so before and send it back to me – this makes a huge difference.**

WHERE, WHEN AND HOW?

7 December 2020- 11 December 2020. You can hand donations in to **Faculty Reception during this period.** Although there is no bag service just now Scott can arrange for things to be collected from your home in that week, if you let me know.

Cash/cheques/mandates– anytime from now!

On **Saturday 12 December 2020** you can bring things into Parliament House in the morning (**10am-12noon**) after which we will take the donations straight to Fife in a Faculty van.

Thank you to everyone who has offered support and for the fantastic response in the past years. This year it is more important than ever. The pressure on the families has increased enormously. Some parents starve themselves at this time to make sure they have something to give their children. That shouldn't have to happen. Please help them, if you can.

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