# SHARING THE JOY



## ADOPT A MILITARY FAMILY IN NEED FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Share the joy of gifts by shopping our Amazon wish list or donating toys

### **DONATIONS ACCEPTED OCTOBER 17-DECEMBER 12**

### **ACCEPTING NEW DONATIONS OF:**

- \*GIFT CARDS
- \*STUFFED ANIMALS
- \*LEGO SETS
- \*L.O.L. SURPRISE!
- \*COLORING BOOKS
- ★DOLLS
- \*HOT WHEELS
- \*\*SCOOTERS
- \*NERF GUNS
- \*BOARD GAMES
- \*AND MORE





**LEARN MORE** teamstepusa.org/sharingthejoy

### Follow us @teamSTEPusa



### **Delivered by Reindeer Post**

### **Express Mail from the North Pole**

### **Dear Sharing The Joy Partner,**

Thank you for your interest in joining our Annual Sharing The Joy Holiday 'Adoption' Program. This year more than ever, our military and Veteran families need your help. As you may know, our military families were hit extra hard by inflation and we would like to ease some of the financial burdens and stress that come with the holidays.

We are ready to match you to a family in financial hardship. At STEP, we focus on helping military families become financially self-sufficient. Many of these families have participated in our Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) program, which has supported 6093 families work toward financial wellness and issued \$2.2 million in grants since 2012.

We are currently seeking donors to adopt a family in need. Will you join us this year? Please review this packet with detailed information about our Sharing The Joy program. The next step is to complete the Donor Application at **teamstepusa.org/sharingthejoy** so we can start matching YOU with a local military family. We look forward to working with you to bring joy to our military families this Holiday Season!

With gratitude,

The STEP Team

PS. Remember to be a good kid this year!

The STEP Workshop & Reindeer Stables
The North Pole



### GENERAL GUIDELINES







### WISH LIST(S)

- Ready to play Secret Santa?! Individuals or groups can apply to adopt a military family or families.
- As applications are vetted, Wish Lists will be distributed to donors along with a link to our Amazon Wish List.
- STEP will provide each donor with info about their family and the gift requests. On page 3 is an example Wish List showing the family number, individual's names, and items.
- Once you have signed up and receive your Wish List(s), please contact Barb within 48-hours with any questions: barb.fiorina@teamstepusa.org



#### **GIFTS**

- We recommend spending approximately \$75 per family member, but purchases are made at the donors discretion.
- Once you receive your list, you can begin shopping. Donors will be able to 'shop' STEP's Amazon Wish List for each family member. You can see an example of this on page 3. There is a list for each age group (Ex. 5-7 year olds) and using the list as a guideline you are invited to purchase any item on the list. These gifts will then be delivered directly to STEP via Amazon and then distributed at the Holiday Parade Distribution. Of course, you are always welcome to shop somewhere else and send or drop off the gifts at STEP yourself.
- Keep your receipts! Please email your receipt to **holiday@teamstepusa.org** so we can record the donation (this saves us time inventorying).



### LOGISTICS

- While Amazon Gifts are preferred, you may also drop gifts you purchase outside of Amazon at STEP between **October 17 December 12.** 
  - For large corporate donations, pick up may be available. Please ensure you have staff available to assist with loading at the time of pick up.
- STEP will begin accepting gift drop offs October 17, Monday Thursday 9AM 4PM at our Scripps Ranch office. For Washington State donors that would like to drop off, please contact Kristen DeArmond at kristen.dearmond@teamstepusa.org
  - 9915 Businesspark Ave, Suite A, San Diego, CA 92131
  - 3602 Pacific Avenue, Suite 200, Tacoma, WA 98418
- ALL gifts MUST be delivered to STEP by December 12 to ensure each military family receives their gifts before the holidays. Gifts received after December 12 may not be delivered on time.





# **EXAMPLE**WISH LIST







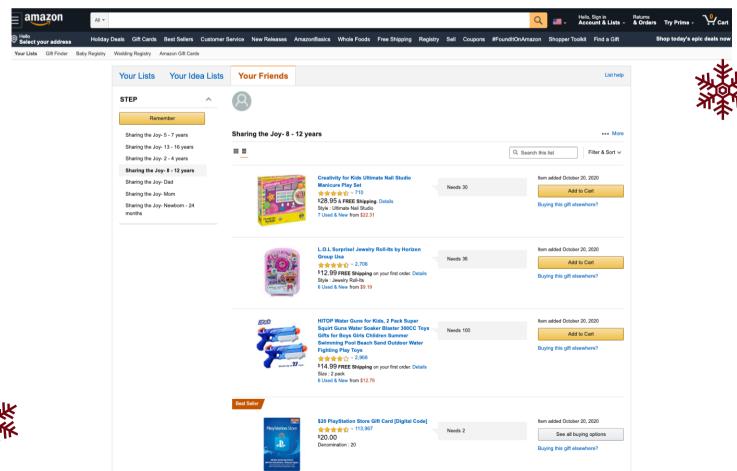
WISH LIST(S)

Family ID #: 62754 Wish List Family # 1

## EXAMPLE

Name	Wish List	Gender	Age	Fav Color	Pant Size	Shirt Size	Dress Size	Shoe Size
Service Member: <b>Simba</b>	Kan Jam, Slippers, Yeti Cup	Male	X	red	30	L	L	14
Spouse: Nala	Essential Oil Diffuser, Gift Card, Blanket	Female	X	orange	10	L	L	8
Кора	Card Game, Book, Nerf Gun	Male	10	yellow	8	s	s	3
Kiara	LOL Surprise!, String Lights, Nail Polish	Female	10	green	8	S	s	3
Kion	Game, Walkie Talkie, Nerf Gun	Male	10	blue	10	s	s	3

### AMAZON WISH LIST(S)





### DONOR FAQ







### **GENERAL FAQ**

### **HOW CAN I HELP?**

STEP is currently accepting donors to 'adopt' a military family for the holidays.

### **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

We recommend \$75 per individual. You can adopt as big or small a family as you would like. You may also adopt multiple families. A family includes both guardians and children who are in financial need.

### WHO ARE WE HELPING?

Active duty families or Veterans within 18 months of transitioning that are in a verified financial crisis.

### CAN I MEET THE FAMILY?

Due to privacy reasons we are unable to connect donors and families.

### HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT TO GET THE FAMILY MEMBERS?

Once you are matched with a family our team will provide a "Wish List" from each family member.

### WHAT IF I CAN'T FIND THEIR WISH LIST ITEM?

All items will be available on STEP's Amazon Wish List or you can opt to purchase a gift card to Target,
Walmart, etc. for the family to select the item(s) themselves.

### WHAT ABOUT THE GUARDIANS?

If a parent does not provide a Wish List, it is not mandatory to provide a gift. However, one gift such as a gift card to Target or Walmart would be appreciated.

### DO WE NEED TO WRAP THE GIFTS?

As we encourage Amazon delivery, we ask gifts NOT be wrapped.

### HOW DO THE FAMILIES GET THE PRESENTS?

STEP will have scheduled drop off & pick up times with a deadline of Wednesday, December 12.

Gifts will be picked up or delivered to the families before the holidays.

### **HOW ELSE CAN WE HELP?**

We invite you to participate in our Toy Drive or Thanksgiving Drive. We are always looking for volunteers to sort gifts, organize the warehouse, & more.

To learn more please email barb.fiorina@teamstepusa.org

### **CORPORATIONS & ORANIZATIONS**

### **HOW CAN I ENGAGE MY EMPLOYEES?**

In the past, donors have created a tree with each item from the Wish List being placed inside an ornament. This allows multiple employees to get involved and shop for the families.

