

# Heartland for Children FOSTER CARE NEWSLETTER

October 2024 Page 1



It's time for football, pumpkin spice everything and wearing jackets in the evening (mostly for mosquito protection - but it counts)!

It's also time for Rudolph Round-up preparations. We spent late August and September gathering wish lists and making connections with potential donors. In October, wish lists will be distributed to donors. Please see page 3 for additional Rudolph updates.

But first, check out the updates on the Foster Caregiver as Recruiter Campaign starting on this page!



#### What is the Foster Parents As Recruiters Campaign?

Heartland for Children is holding a recruitment campaign from now until the end of December 2024 to recognize and celebrate the recruitment work our foster families do for us and, more importantly, for the children we all serve.

During this campaign, foster families will have the opportunity to earn prizes and points for the monthly drawings for doing what you are already doing – telling others about the need for quality foster families and sharing your fostering story! (Please see page 2 for all the ways to earn entries.)

Prizes: Earn seven (7) entries and you will receive a \$5.00 e-gift card. Earn fifteen (15) entries and you will receive a \$10.00 e-gift card. All e-gift cards will be sent out in January 2025.

Drawings: Winners will be contacted and publicly announced using their first name & last initial

- Monthly Prize (beginning of October, November, December, and January): \$50 gift card to your choice of Wal-Mart, Publix or Amazon
- Grand Prize (beginning of January): \$100 gift card to Darden Restaurants

#### **September Results**

Points Leader Board M.V. - 5 points T.A. - 4 points





# Announcing the Foster Parents As Recruiters Campaign!

Actions	Verification	# Of Entries
Potential family contacting HFC about fostering Please make sure they know to tell us your name!	HFC Documentation	1
Potential family completing the "Getting to Know You" form	HFC Documentation	2
Potential family attending a live Information Night session Please make sure they know to tell us your name!	Sign-in Sheet	1
Potential family completing background paperwork for all adults in their homes	HFC Documentation	3
Potential family enrolling in Passport to Parenting class	HFC Documentation	2
Potential family completing Passport to Parenting class (including Diana Screening & required outside trainings)	HFC Documentation	4
Potential family becomes licensed	HFC Documentation	5
"Follow" HFC on Facebook	Send Faye Dyer a screen shot	1
"Like" and HFC Social Media Post (1 per month)	Send Faye Dyer a screen shot	1
Share an HFC Social Media Post (1 per month)	Send Faye Dyer a screen shot	2
Refer your church, business, school or group for a poster (Please confirm with them first that they are okay with this first)	Email details to Tracy Deal	2



#### **Rudolph Round-up News**

Wow! Our Circuit 10 Elves have been very busy in September! Already they have met 52% of their goals for this year's Rudolph Round-Up Toy Drive! They have gotten:

- Commitments from 173 individuals & businesses
- 787 Children/Teens sponsored so far <u>PLUS</u>
- 34 Toy Drives

Things are going so well, that wish lists are already being given out to donors so they can get their shopping done early (which means you get to pick up the gifts for your foster kids in plenty of time to wrap and hide!).



## Wait...You Don't Have Your Wish Lists in to Rudolph?

It's not too late to get them in, but don't delay! The faster you get them in, the faster we can get them to donors, the faster...well, you get the idea.

If you are a Level 1 (Relative/Non-Relative) Foster Caregiver, please contact your child's case manager to complete his/her wish list.

If you are a Level 2-5 (Traditional, Therapeutic or Medical) Foster Caregiver, please check your email for messages from Rudolph. They will contain a link to the wish list for you to complete. If you can't find it, please contact Elf Faye at fdyer@heartlandforchildren.org and she will rush it right over to you.

#### And Remember...

- Wish lists must be specific and thoroughly completed.
- Each child should request 2-3 wishes with a total value not exceeding \$100.
- Wishes must be specific and age appropriate. Ex: video game maturity, baby toys, types of consoles for video games, etc.
- For a child 12+, ONE of their wishes can be a gift card to a specific store.
- Due to the increased expense of bicycles, we ask that you do not list a bicycle as a child's wish. You can add it as an interest in the notes and add the size bike needed. If a donated bicycle is available, it may be designated for the child.
- If a child is requesting specific shoes or clothing items DO NOT forget to list their clothing/shoe sizes.
- Food CANNOT be listed as a wish.
- Guns, weapons or violent items CANNOT be listed as a wish.
- DO NOT list essential items such as hygiene products as wishes.





# Foster Home Score Board

FY 2024 - 2025

Goal: 70 New Homes

**Current Homes** 

Newly Licensed Homes



**Relicensed Homes** 



### **Important Dates in August**



10/8 - Board Rate Payments Disbursed

10/19 - Florida FAPA Mini-Conference (see page 4)

10/31 - Foster Care Advisory Council Meeting 12:00 - 1:00 pm