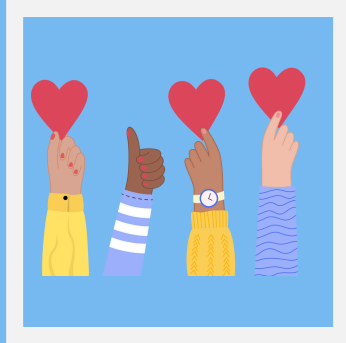
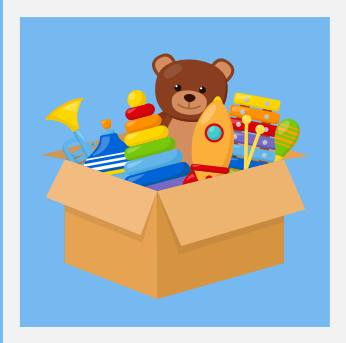
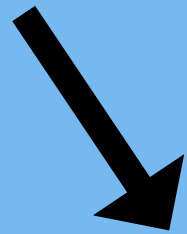
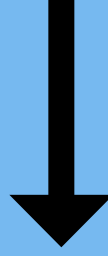
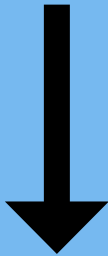
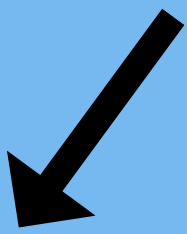




HOLIDAY WISHES TOOLKIT

Each year VOA Illinois hosts Holiday Wishes, a program that provides gifts during the holidays to children and families experiencing homelessness and children of the Veterans served by VOA Illinois. We have provided gifts, toys, and JOY to more than 400 children and 200 Veterans each year and this would not have been possible without our incredible supporters.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



Children's Gifts

Adult Gift Baskets

Volunteer

Other

Make a child's holiday wishes come true by purchasing gifts for the youth we serve! Choose to shop for one child, or buy gifts for multiple! If you are interested in this option, please email Sarah at skowal@voail.org to ensure that you receive a wish list!

This year, we will be providing gifts to the adults we serve in the form of Gift Baskets! This is a great way to spread joy to Veterans or individuals struggling or in crisis. See the list below of the supplies we are asking are in each basket and help us extend the magic of the holiday season.

Are you looking to volunteer with us during this magical season? We will have multiple opportunities for you to join us at the office and help us organize and wrap gifts! For more information, visit our [website](#) or send Sarah an email at skowal@voail.org

If you have already had your fill of gift shopping or are looking to get involved in other ways that won't require braving the cold, no problem! You can visit our [website](#) to make a monetary donation! We are always thankful for the donations that help our programs run.

HOLIDAY WISHES TOOLKIT

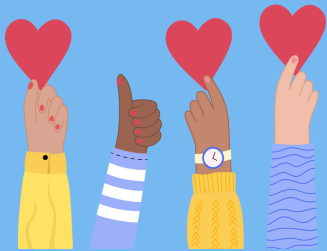


Make a child's holiday wishes come true by purchasing gifts for the youth we serve! We ask that you spend around \$75 per child and drop off your labeled and unwrapped gifts to VOA Illinois by **December 6th**. Wishes will be sent out in early November and will include all of the information you will need including the correct label for each gift, the child's age, and clothing size!



Items that we are asking are in adult baskets are:

- Unisex hat and gloves set, hand warmers, warm socks, blanket
- Gift Card for a grocery store or retail (ideas: Walmart, Target, CVS, Aldi)
- Hygiene items - Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrush, lotion, etc.
- Kitchen items – Cookware, dish set, cups, utensils, garbage bags, dish soap, sponges, etc.
- Cleaning products – Clorox wipes, hand soap, toilet paper, paper towel, brooms, mops, etc.
- Home goods - Bedding (queen/full), pillows, towels, washcloths, laundry soap, etc.
- Coffee mug/festive candies



We are always looking for volunteers to help us sort and wrap gifts! This year, our volunteer week will be from **December 9th - December 12th**. If you are interested in volunteering during this time, contact Sarah at skowal@voail.org, or visit our [website](#) for more details.



If you have already had your fill of gift shopping, or you are looking to get involved in other ways, no problem! You can visit our [website](#) to make a monetary donation OR reach out to development@voail.org for more information about sponsorship opportunities for our Holiday events!



HOLIDAY WISHES TOOLKIT

Sample Social Media Posts

- As the weather begins to cool off, we're reminded that the holidays are quickly approaching and that means it's Holiday Wishes season! Help bring a smile to a child in need in your community, by becoming a Holiday Wishes partner. It's easy! @VOAllinois will send you the wishes of a child and you purchase, wrap and deliver the items back to VOA Illinois. Reach out to learn more! [#TheVOAWay](#)
- Looking for a way to change the life of a child in need this holiday season? Become a Holiday Wishes partner! Each child VOA serves submits 3 wishes and we ask our generous partners to fulfill these wishes. [#TheVOAWay](#)
- With the holidays approaching, we're excited to support @VOAllinois in providing holiday gifts to the children they serve! You can help make this holiday season bright for all by sponsor a child's holiday wishes [#TheVOAWay](#)

Newsletter Template

As the weather starts to cool off, it is already time to start thinking of the holiday season! This year, we are participating in Holiday Wishes, an annual holiday gift drive hosted by VOA Illinois to collect presents for youth in need in our community. Each child selects up to three wishes (each up to \$25) and partners are asked to fulfill these wishes. Each year the drive provides gifts, toys, and JOY to more than 400 children.

Interested in participating? Here is how it works:

- Sign up to sponsor a child or wish - we ask that \$75 be spent per child and/or \$25 per wish (3 wishes provided)
- Please make sure to label the gift with the child code and name on the outside of the gift
- Please deliver all unwrapped gifts to your company's collection location
- Feel great about making a difference in a family's life this holiday season!

Thank you for your support of Holiday Wishes and the children VOA Illinois serves. If you have any questions on this year's program email Team Rep at *insert contact*



HOLIDAY WISHES TOOLKIT

2024 Timeline

