

COMMUNITY BASED CARE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST

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News & Media

Making Christmas Bright looking for local stars to collect toys

Port St. Lucie – Imagine you're 5 years old. You wake up one morning in a strange home because your mom and dad can't take care of you anymore.

Now imagine it is Christmas morning.

Did Santa find you?

The Making Christmas Bright project needs stars to make sure the answer is, "yes."

"We're looking for businesses, social groups and churches to coordinate toy drives on our behalf," said Christina Kaiser, Devereux CBC community relations director and project manager for Making Christmas Bright, a local gift drive first organized in 1999 to ensure children in foster care receive presents during the holidays.



Jill K. was one of those children.

"I wasn't always sure where I would be for Christmas, but I always knew I could count on my case manager to bring presents - that was Santa Claus for me."

Making Christmas Bright is jointly coordinated by Devereux CBC and Guardians for New Futures, a nonprofit organization that helps meet the unfunded needs of children in foster care.

More than 54,100 gifts have been collected since the program began 17 years ago. This year's goal is 1,900 gifts - or at least two presents for each of the 950 children served by the dependency system in Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties.

Participation is simple:

- Ask for a list of children's names and gift wishes by contacting Kaiser at christina.kaiser@devereuxcbc.org.
- Organize a toy drive with your employees or members
- Call us when you're ready for a pick up we'll come to you!

For more information, including flyers and brochures that can be downloaded and shared, please click on the Making Christmas Bright banner at the top of this page.

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September 6, 2016

Contact: Christina Kaiser (772) 528-0362



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