

TOYS & GIFTS

We are very grateful to receive donations of new toys, gifts, food and essentials. To be consistent with our core values, violent toys such as guns, swords and nerf guns will not be accepted. The following are guidelines of donations that we are able to accept. Thank you in advance for your generosity and for respecting our values.

Children (infant to 12 years)

- Infant and toddler toys (non-violent)
- Creative, educational sets
- Bead kits
- Dolls, teddy bears, soft toys
- Cars, trucks, boats, trains
- Books, board games & puzzles
- Colouring books & markers
- Lego & Duplo building toys
- Arts & crafts supplies
- Infant rattles & teething
- Infant/toddler music (CD/DVD)
- Musical toys (drums, keyboards, etc)

Teens (13 years – 16 years)

- Board games
- Electronics (media players, earphones, mini speakers)
- Stocking Stuffers appropriate for teens
- Sports Equipment (basketballs, soccer balls)
- Gift cards from retail chains in downtown Toronto. Ideal gift card choices include: malls and discount stores, Drugstores (i.e. Shoppers Drug Mart, Rexall), book stores (i.e. Indigo), Movie theatres and clothing stores (i.e. Forever21, H&M, Footlocker)

Street Youth

- Gift cards - ideal choices include: coffee shops (i.e. Tim Hortons, Starbucks), fast food restaurants (i.e. McDonald's, Pizza Pizza), drugstores (i.e. Shoppers Drug Mart, Rexall), Malls and discount stores (i.e. Cadillac Fairview and Wal-Mart) and clothing stores (i.e. Forever21, H&M, Footlocker)
- Winter wear – hats, socks, gloves, coats, boots and scarves
- Toiletry items such as shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste (travel size)

Adult and Senior Gift Bags

- Gift cards from grocery, drug stores and discount shops
- Backpacks & stationary items
- Pre-paid phone cards
- Toiletry items such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste.
- Socks
- Winter wear - hats, gloves & scarves
- Large print books
- TTC tickets/tokens
- Incontinence (depends) products

FOOD

*Due to Ontario Public Health Standards we are unable to accept homemade cakes and baked goods.

Non - Perishable food

- Canned/Dried - chickpeas, bean and lentils
- Canned Fish - sardines, tuna and salmon
- Canned - tomatoes/sauce, soup and vegetables
- Peanut butter, Jam, Honey
- Cooking oil: canola, olive & other vegetable oils
- Bread: whole grain, gluten-free, buns
- Rice
- Pasta
- Pasta (Gluten-Free)
- Flour
- Sugar
- Granola Bars
- Crackers
- Peanut-Free Snacks
- Halal Snacks
- Oatmeal
- Cereal- preferably low sugar
- Cereal (Gluten-Free)
- Tea & Coffee
- Powdered milk
- Energy bars & Ensure/meal replacement drinks
- Baby cereal and jarred baby food
- Baby formula (liquid or powdered)

Frozen meat

- Chickens
- Hams
- Turkeys
- Halal chickens & meat products

Perishable food

- Christmas cake, cookies & biscuits *
- Oranges, apples, pears
- Condiments & seasonings
- Candy & chocolate
- Dairy, milk, eggs, cheese and yogurt

Other

- Toiletry items such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste.
- Incontinence products
- Baby Diapers - size 2 and up

Meal Packages

Looking to provide our neighbours in need with some healthy meals? Our team have crafted some healthy low cost meals with non-perishable items. Here is how you can help create meal packages:

Mom's Chili

- 1 can kidney beans
- 1 can black beans
- 1 large can diced tomatoes
- 1 pack chili seasoning

Tex Mex Chicken & Rice

- 2 cans flaked chicken
- 1 small jar salsa
- 1 bag of rice
- 1 fajita mix
- 8" tortillas

Minestrone Soup

- 1 can diced tomatoes
- 1 can cannellini beans
- 1 box pasta
- 1 carton vegetable broth

Tuna Noonie

- 1 can condensed "cream of" soup (celery, mushroom, or chicken)
- 2 cans tuna
- 500g pasta

Scalloped Potatoes

- 4 potatoes
- 1 can "cream of" soup (chicken, mushroom, celery)
- 1 can of flaked ham

Bean Burritos

- 1 can refried beans
- 1 can black beans or kidney beans
- 1 can green chiles
- 1 burrito spice mix
- 1 pack 8" tortilla

For more information on YSM's Christmas Wish List visit ysm.ca/holidaycheer or call 416-929-9614

ESSENTIALS

(Men & women)



Hygiene kits (travel size in re-sealable plastic bags):

- Toothpaste & toothbrush
- Deodorant/antiperspirant
- Soap bars
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Disposable razors & shaving cream
- Hand sanitizer
- Lotion
- Feminine hygiene products (sanitary napkins, tampons, maxi pads)

Winter survival kit:

- Cold weather boots and running shoes
- Jackets
- Underwear
- Socks
- Winter gloves and hats
- Jeans & sweatpants
- Sweatshirts & hoodies
- T-shirts
- Backpacks/canvas bags
- Sleeping bags
- TTC tokens/tickets
- Gift cards: coffee shops and fast food chains

YSM issues tax receipts for financial gifts and items valued at \$200+. Proof of an item's value, such as a sales receipt, must be provided. Gift cards are receipted at face value.

To help reduce YSM's transportation costs, we encourage donors to bring in donations. This allows us to place more resources directly into services and programs that directly impact our community members. For drop-offs, we ask that you call in advance to advise us of future deliveries so that we can be ready to accept the order. In the event that pick-up is necessary, please call our main line to arrange a time. During busy periods, it may take up to 6 business days to arrange for pickup. For more information please call 416-929-9614 or visit ysm.ca/holidaycheer.