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BRING JOY TO SURVIVORS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Adopt a Family for Christmas

LUFKIN, TX (November 4, 2020) – Bring joy to survivors of family violence and sexual assault by adopting an adult and their children and providing gifts for them to open Christmas morning.

The Family Crisis Center’s Adopt a Family for Christmas program offers the community an opportunity to make an impact in the lives of survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence who are now working hard to improve their situations so they can live the life they were meant to live.

“These are women and children who have escaped bad circumstances and are either living in a shelter, transitional housing or have become self-sufficient,” said Glenna Harkness, program director of the Family Crisis Center. “Regardless, these survivors are doing everything they can to ensure their children grow up in a better situation.

“The strength these families have found to not only leave a bad situation but begin working toward a better life is amazing,” she said. “Most of them are not earning enough to buy Christmas presents in addition to supporting their family on a daily basis.

“They need the community to step in and be their secret Santa.”

Families need to be adopted by Wednesday, Nov. 18 and unwrapped gifts delivered to the offices of the crisis center by Monday, Dec. 7.

Residents interested in adopting a family can contact Greta Rich, community outreach coordinator at the Family Crisis Center, at 936-639-1681 or email her at grich@fccet.com.

Boilerplate

The Family Crisis Center of East Texas (FCCET) is a non-profit organization that empowers survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault by providing crisis intervention and advocacy services. The FCCET also engages the community through education to build awareness and prevent domestic violence and sexual assault.

Since 1979, the Janelle Grum Family Crisis Center of East Texas (Women's Shelter of East Texas, Inc.) staffs a full array of professionals specializing in assistance for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Those services included emergency shelter, a 24-hour crisis hotline, access to food and clothing, information and referral, legal and personal advocacy, child advocacy, counseling, support groups, job readiness training, transitional housing, homeless prevention financial assistance, child care assistance, and more. In 2019, our agency provided 1,278 residential and non-residential clients with over 207,000 essential services.

CUTLINE:

From this one donation to Family Crisis Center of East Texas survivors, a generous donor adopted several families for a recent Christmas and gave much needed gifts and wish list items. Oftentimes, gift requests come in the form of household items and clothing that make everyday living easier. As for most children, toys bring the magic and joy of Christmas along with providing them items to encourage creativity. Many families are waiting to be adopted and feel hope during these most difficult times. Residents, businesses and organizations make Christmas possible for about 90 families a year.

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