



*Ballard Community Center partners with individuals and families to achieve stability through early childhood education and needs-based services.*



### **Adopt-A-Family Tips**

**Your family's information sheet** will include a wish list for each child in the family you are matched to, the age, sex, and specific holiday gift requests. If clothing is requested, the size will be included.

- To assist us in stretching our donor base and assure that no child goes without gifts, **only 1 adult in each family will be receiving gifts.**
- Due to regulations, only students and staff are allowed to enter Ballard, limiting the number of anonymous matches we are able to accommodate to our student's families. Therefore, we will be **connecting the vast majority of donors directly to the families** to coordinate gift drop-off.
- You may also find information on the family you adopt. Each family that comes to Ballard has a story of what led them to ask for help and we'd like to share it with you. This year, our wonderful volunteers will not only be gathering the families wish lists, but they will also be listening so that we might identify additional services that may be helpful to achieve stability.
- If you are having problems finding the perfect gift for children, we have partnered with [The Toy Store](#) at 936 Mass Street. They have created a separate rack just for Ballard to make your shopping easy! In addition, Ballard's therapist has collaborated with The Toy Store staff to identify educational and therapeutic toys to help the kids be the best they can be.
- If you prefer shopping online or unable to find a specific gift, **gift certificates are very much appreciated.**
- Many donors include a gift certificate to a local grocery store so that families can purchase a Christmas or holiday meal.
- It is helpful if a gift receipt is included for easy exchange of the gift if needed. To assure receipts and gift certificates are not misplaced in the excitement of opening gifts, place them together in a separate envelope or box and clearly mark it for the adult in the family listed as the contact. If you were not provided a name, you may address it to the parent or guardian (example: "For the Parent" or "For the Guardian").

Volunteers graciously donate their time to conduct the intake of the families and gather their wish lists. If you have questions about any of items on the wish list or need anything clarified, **please feel free to contact CEO Becky Price. Her email is [becky@ballardcenter.org](mailto:becky@ballardcenter.org) and her cell is (785) 766-8923.**