

2025 Holiday Assistance Programs

Organization	Details
Salvation Army (Chelsea, Revere, Everett, Winthrop)	<p>The Salvation Army remains on the frontlines of need to Love Beyond the Holidays. We will provide assistance to struggling families, which includes providing Christmas gifts, putting food on the table, paying bills, and providing shelter for those without a home.</p> <p>You can register for Thanksgiving and Christmas assistance at The Salvation Army of Chelsea during the following days: 2025 Registration Dates: In-person registration for Holiday Assistance at 258 Chestnut Street, Chelsea.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday, October 19 and 24th from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.. Wednesday, November 2nd from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. AND 5:00-7:00. Monday November 7 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. <p><u>Head of household must be present and bring the following information to register:</u> Typically need the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Valid photo ID 2) One OFFICIAL document with child's <u>birthdate</u> on it. (birth certificate, school record, passport, shot record, etc). 3) Proof of residency in our service area (ex. rent receipt) 4) Utility bill
Salvation Army (Boston)	<p>For Boston Zip Codes, register online at the link below when open.</p> <p>Thanksgiving Turkey Distribution: Registration opening date TBA and Distribution is November 22nd, 2025 Christmas Castle: Registration opening date TBA and Distribution is December 8th-10th, 2025 www.salvationarmyma.org/BostonHolidayHelp</p>
Salvation Army	<p>For all other locations, call patient's closest location. Sign ups start as early as the last two weeks of October. Each location may have slightly different assistance offerings including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopt a family programs - Food gift cards for holiday meals - Holiday food baskets - And more...
Toys for Tots	<p>Best route for information is to use the provided link to find a local campaign because each county has a different way of connecting families to assistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each county has different rules, so check the patient's specific county using the link below <p>https://www.toysfortots.org/find-your-local-chapter/</p>
My Brother's Keeper (Eastern Mass including Boston and Cape Cod. Does not go to	<p>Assistance is provided by delivery only — no pick-ups at our facility.</p> <p><u>All requests are processed by phone.</u></p>



<p>Framingham or points west)</p>	<p>My Brother's Keeper only accepts requests from parents in need. We do not accept second-hand requests from family, friends, or advocates.</p> <p>Gifts are delivered directly to homes sometime between December 1st – 24th. CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE LINE Phone: 508–238–2562 September – December Call for up-to-date days & hours of operation https://mybrotherskeeper.org/christmas/</p>
<p>ABCD</p>	<p>ABCD makes food baskets, turkeys, and other holiday meal supplies available for pickup at many neighborhood sites from mid-November through the end of December. Follow the link provided to contact ABCD to find help.</p> <p>To sign up, you need to call and make an appointment. They do not take walk-ins. Documents needed for the appointment: id, proof of Boston address, income, number of people in household, birth certificates for children under 12 and must be a resident of Boston.</p> <p>ABCD Holiday Meals: https://bostonabcd.org/service/holiday-meals/</p> <p>Locations: https://bostonabcd.org/#locations</p> <p>Deadlines- Each location may have different dates. ABCD says to call the person's local site for more information. *Boston residents can go to any of the ABCD sites for assistance.</p>
<p>Lynn Family Resource Center</p>	<p>In need of holiday gift assistance? Call the FRC at 339-883-2401. They don't currently have the holiday assistance program listed but it should be coming soon/towards the end of October. Call them for more info!</p> <p>In 2022 they had a deadline of November 1st and the toy program was announced 10/25. The first 200 families were eligible for toy assistance.</p>
<p>Family Resource Centers</p>	<p>Family resource centers work with families to connect them with community resources and other services the family might be in need of including clothing and holiday assistance. Follow the link to find one closest to your patient: https://www.frcma.org/locations</p> <p>Due dates to register can be as early as late October and early November. It's better to call earlier than later in the holiday season.</p>
<p>Citizens for Citizens Taunton/Fall River area</p>	<p>Operation Christmas program raises money and collects donations to buy and distribute toys and clothing to in-need families in the Fall River and Taunton areas to help provide a traditional Christmas experience for children aged 12 and younger. Application due by December 5th. 10/1/25 – Applications for Operation Christmas are now open!</p> <p>If you have questions, please contact: Fall River: (508) 675-2157 ext 601 or Taunton: (508) 823-6346</p> <p>Apply here: http://cfcinc.org/programs/operation-christmas/</p>



<p>East End House (Cambridge and Somerville residents.)</p>	<p>Their website is not updated for 2025 Holiday programming but below is what they offered in 2024.</p> <p>Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway This annual event provides families who are struggling to make ends meet with all the food they need for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. For information on donating or filling out an application to receive a basket, please call 617-876-4444.</p> <p>Toy Drive and Adopt-a-Family The Toy Drive provides toys for children of families who would otherwise have a difficult time purchasing toys for the holidays. The Adopt-a-Family program gives donors a wish list from each family member so the entire family can have a joyous holiday. For information on donating or filling out an application to receive holiday assistance, please contact Ryan Montbleau.</p> <p>(Depending on donations they may be able to open it up to residents of other towns) For more information on our emergency food program contact Ryan Montbleau or call at 617-876-4444 x103. https://eastendhouse.org/programs-and-services/emergency-food-program/</p>
<p>Catholic Charities (Locations in Boston, Brockton, Somerville, Lowell, Lynn, and South End Boston. Serves surrounding towns.)</p>	<p>Families unable to afford meals for Thanksgiving or other holidays may receive food packages for their household. Call local Catholic Charities for more information.</p> <p>https://www.ccab.org/basic-needs</p>
<p>Woburn Council for Social Concern (Serves Woburn and Winchester)</p>	<p>To help clients at Thanksgiving, Food Pantry staff and volunteers distribute special holiday food baskets. During the month of December extra holiday food and gift cards to local markets are given out during regular visits to the Food Pantry to help with the holiday meal.</p> <p>For more information or to make an appointment call 781-935-6495 and ask for the Food Pantry. Alternatively, you can email paula@socialconcern.org.</p> <p>https://www.socialconcern.org/services/interior-design/</p>
<p>Interfaith Social Services in Quincy (serves Braintree, Cohasset, Hingham, Holbrook, Hull, Milton, Quincy, Randolph, Scituate or Weymouth)</p>	<p>Thanksgiving meal program: Website states that Thanksgiving assistance is now full and suggests calling the Project Bread Food Hotline</p> <p>Clients seeking holiday gift assistance for children ages 12 and under can sign up when they visit the pantry for groceries in the Fall.</p> <p>Visiting the Food Pantry for the first time? Please bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of residence in one of the communities we serve: Braintree, Cohasset, Hingham, Holbrook, Hull, Milton, Quincy, Randolph, Scituate or Weymouth. • This could be a current utility bill sent to the head of household, a lease, or other document proving residency. <p>A form of identification for each person in the household. Examples: driver's license, passport, Massachusetts ID, lease agreement or health insurance card. For children in the household, a birth certificate or Massachusetts health card may be used for identification.</p>



Please note that there is just one order per household. If several adults live in your home, please list them all on your application.

<https://interfaithsocialservices.org/food/#foodassistance>

<https://interfaithsocialservices.org/seasonal-initiatives/>

Postal Service Operation Santa

This isn't a guaranteed way for families to get holiday gift assistance but there is a chance the family could be chosen through this program.

Send requests in before November 17th

Thousands of letters to Santa arrive each year. USPS Operation Santa® invites people to adopt and respond to them.

<https://www.uspsoperationsanta.com/>

City of Everett

Holiday Assistance Program for low-income Everett residents this holiday season. Dates have not been shared yet but states on the city website they are funded to have holiday assistance programs.

Last year, registration was announced the week of October 16th.

Christmas in the City (Boston area)

Info for 2025 has not been posted yet on website.

<https://christmasinthecity.org/programs/monday-mania/>

The Santa Foundation (Franklin, MA area)

Please call The Santa Foundation to see if you reside in a town in which we supply assistance to.

To contact us, call us at 508-528-4715. Thank you.

<https://www.sfjoy.org/get-support>

Our hours during our season will be Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays from 9am to 1pm. During these hours we will be accepting drop offs and taking pickups.

Other agencies to explore for holiday assistance

YMCA's, Boys and Girls Club, local city/towns, local MassCAP agencies: <https://www.masscap.org/>, local churches, Councils for Social Concern, Councils on Aging, Family Resource Centers: <https://www.frcma.org/>, Local Lion's Club and similar organizations, local food pantries: [https://www.gbfb.org/need-food/#googtrans\(en|en\)](https://www.gbfb.org/need-food/#googtrans(en|en)) + ProjectBread Food Resource Hotline: <https://projectbread.org/get-help> , 211



