

How can you help?

Sponsor a Child

- More than 5,000 children and disabled adults need sponsors for Christmas in 2010.
- Your generosity benefits one specific child, who will thank you personally for your gifts.
- All participants reside in out of home placement facilities, many removed due to abuse or neglect.

Volunteer

- Operation Good Cheer needs volunteers to sort and transport gifts in December.
- Volunteer pilots are also needed to fly gifts to airports across the state for the annual "Spirit of Good Cheer" flight.
- This is a great opportunity for the whole family! Please contact CFSM if you will be bringing any children under the age of 12 to volunteer.

Donate

- Contact CFSM if you would like to donate much needed items. Wrapping paper, tape, and clear plastic bags are just a few of the items we collect.
- Operation Good Cheer and the Children's Entitlement Fund accept monetary donations year-round.



Child and Family
Services of Michigan, Inc.

Who We Are...

Child and Family Services of Michigan, Inc., is a private, non-profit, statewide, non-sectarian social service agency. Through our network of nine member agencies, we have improved the lives of children and families since 1891. Our services offer solutions for many social problems that influence lives, both directly and indirectly.

For further information regarding Operation Good Cheer or the services Child and Family Services of Michigan, Inc., provides; please contact:

Operation Good Cheer
**Child and Family Services
of Michigan, Inc.**
2157 University Park Drive
Okemos, MI 48864
Phone: (517) 349-6226
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Operation Good CheerSM 2010



By: Cyndi S
Age 9

"Making Christmas wishes come true"

Child and Family Services of
Michigan, Inc., State Office
2157 University Park Drive
Okemos, MI 48864
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Why Operation Good Cheer?

Operation Good Cheer is an annual, all volunteer, Christmas gift-giving program sponsored and coordinated by Child and Family Services of Michigan, Inc., State Office (CFSM.) Operation Good Cheer focuses on children, youth, and adults with disabilities who currently reside in out-of-home placement facilities. Operation Good Cheer was created in 1971 by a group of individuals who sought to make a difference in the lives of Michigan's abused and neglected children.






Whom does Operation Good Cheer serve?

The grateful recipients of this program are some of the most troubled and vulnerable children in Michigan. Most of these children were removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect and currently reside in foster care, group homes, or residential treatment facilities across the state. Abuse and neglect has increased at an alarming rate in the last decade. As a result, the number of youth currently in out-of-home care has grown substantially. Fortunately, with a program like Operation Good Cheer, charitable individuals and companies have the opportunity to give generously to brighten the lives of these children and disabled adults.

What is Operation Good Cheer?

Each year thousands of volunteers, individuals, and companies come together to purchase and wrap gifts from an individual child's "Wish List." Each "Wish List" includes a personal profile of the child along with six gift choices they would appreciate. Our coding system ensures the confidentiality of each participant as well as the gift's final destination. Transportation companies volunteer their services for the gift collection and deliver them to Oakland County International Airport, where gift coding determines the delivery method and location. The following day, volunteer pilots gather to fly the gifts to numerous airports located across the state. Agencies greet the pilots, collect their gifts, and deliver them to each child before Christmas morning. Operation Good Cheer is truly a collaboration of generosity. Each year thousands join CFSM, all sharing a common holiday goal for Michigan's disadvantaged children and youth. Operation Good Cheer is scheduled for December 3 & 4th, 2010.

2009 Program Statistics...

-  **4326 children were sponsored.**
-  **41 nonprofit agencies participated.**
-  **305 individuals and groups sponsored children.**
-  **15 trucking companies transported gifts.**
-  **300 pilots volunteered their aircraft and services for gift delivery.**

Children's Entitlement Fund

Another large part of Operation Good Cheer is the Children's Entitlement Fund. This year-round fund provides children and youth in foster care, access to activities normally unattainable from other funding sources. Granted activities advance social leadership and nourish the self-esteem of recipients. This restricted fund is maintained through donations made by caring individuals and companies each year.

When a child is removed from his or her biological home and placed in care, often they feel isolated and unable to trust or love anyone. For many, just realizing that "someone does care" through the medical, recreational, and educational grants the Children's Entitlement Fund furnishes is very encouraging.

While foster families provide love, shelter, and support for each child, the Children's Entitlement Fund gives children in care the ability to become involved in programs that encourage their positive development and increase their self-esteem through medical and educational support. The Children's Entitlement Fund has provided orthodontic work, tutoring services, funding for camps, gym memberships, and even emergency clothing for children entering care.

In 2009, 22 requests from children were granted totaling \$4,214.56. We need your help to continue enriching the lives of Michigan's children each year. Contact Child and Family Services of Michigan, Inc., for information about making a donation.