



Frequently Asked Questions about PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS®

What is the purpose of PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS®?

The purpose of PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® is to create a smile for patients at Christmas time by providing them with a gift that is personally delivered by a member of their community.

What is the goal of this year's campaign?

Each year since its founding in 1984, PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® has grown. During 2010 322 nursing homes, assisted living centers and personal care homes were reached, representing 27,482 patients. Since its inception, the campaign has reached 431,113 patients.

What does PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® need people to do?

Participation in PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® can take many forms:

- **"Adopt" patients** – People are needed to adopt a patient by buying a small gift and personally delivering it. The visit is the real gift. Individuals are matched with patients at nearby nursing homes and personal care homes. The patient's first name, age and three gift requests are listed on a card sent to the person's home. Items patients request typically cost \$5-\$25.
- **Office party** – An office or workplace can adopt as many patients as they wish, perhaps even an entire facility. Visits can be a party complete with refreshments, entertainment and Santa Claus.
- **Group activity** – Church groups, Scout troops and civic groups are encouraged to adopt patients. A member can be designated to collect money and shop for gifts; others can deliver the gifts.
- **Gift donations** – Businesses can donate excess inventory or spearhead a collection of items. PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® volunteers will deliver the items.
- **Monetary donations** – Volunteers will shop and fulfill patients' wish lists.
- **Volunteering at PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® headquarters** – During November and December, volunteers are needed to answer telephones, match patients with a visitor, and pack gifts for delivery.

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- **Buy a blanket or bear** – For people who do not have time to personally visit a patient but still want to be involved, an embroidered throw decorated with the PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® logo is available for \$30. A stuffed teddy bear wearing a PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® t-shirt is available for \$20. To order, call 724-443-0011.

How do I know what to buy my patient?

Donors are sent a green card in the mail with a patient's first name, their facility and its contact information, and the patient's three gift requests. Donors are asked to buy one item. Most items cost \$5-\$25. The most commonly requested items are slippers, socks, sweatshirts, sweaters and blankets.

What is the history of PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS®?

PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® was founded in 1984 by William V. Day, president of St. Barnabas Health System. His goal was – and is – to help patients combat the loneliness they often feel during the holidays by providing them with a gift and visitor. Mr. Day's secondary goal was to provide members of the public with an opportunity to visit their local nursing homes and personal care homes to witness the acts of goodwill and compassion that occur every day. Since its founding, PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® has provided **431,113** gifts and visits to patients in five states. The program has received numerous awards from local and national civic organizations, including President Ronald Reagan's Citation in 1988. Because of the heart-warming value to patients and participants alike, PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® has grown each year since its founding.

Who operates PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS®?

PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS® is operated and spearheaded by St. Barnabas Charities, the charitable arm of St. Barnabas Health System. Four regional headquarters ensure that the campaign is successful.

How can I get more information about PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS®?

Visit www.PRESENTSFORPATIENTS.com, call (724) 443-0011 or contact any of the participating facilities or headquarters.