

b'link™ Retiree Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2021

CONNECT | GROW | VOLUNTEER

2021 Holiday Drive

In 1992, State Farm started the "Giving Tree", a program to coordinate an opportunity for employees to give back to those in their community during the Holidays.



The Giving Tree program worked with various local non-profit organizations to provide their clients who lacked the resources to give or receive gifts during the holiday season to receive a special gift from a State Farm employee.

This year, the program unveils a new name, "Holiday Drive", but the tradition of giving back to families, children, and seniors to help make their holiday season brighter continues.

The Holiday Drive will run from November 15th – December 3rd.

To Participate:

Step 1: Select a gift wish from the <u>Holiday Drive Gift</u> Wish List

Step 2: Purchase a gift per the selected gift wish

 Please keep the gift total between \$20-\$25 for equity among other gift recipients. Several wishes may be listed as suggestions. It is not the intention for you to purchase all items listed.

Step 3: You can choose to ship your gift(s) per the instructions on the gift wish selected OR drop off your gift(s) at our curbside drop off at b'link (northeast corner of the ILOC) on Dec 1, 2 and 3 from 9am-5pm.

Thank YOU!

Last month, we had two drop off opportunities for non-profits in our community. A **HUGE** "thank you" to everyone that participated. The turnout was amazing.

For the Salvation Army's "Pack the Pantry" event, we collected almost 300 pantry items – now that is what you call **PACK** the pantry. Thank you again!

Our Bloomington Pride members (and actually some State Farm colleagues outside of Bloomington) pulled through and raised approximately \$1,000 through gift cards and new winter clothing! Project OZ even gave us a social media shout out for our donations!

A Look Ahead

Things that are coming your way in the next month:

- Holiday Gift Wrappers Needed
 Children's Home and Aid is in need of Holiday
 Gift Wrappers to wrap gifts for their Adopt-a Family program. If interested, contact Laura
 Cordero Development Associate Children's
 Home & Aid –
 lcordero@childrenshomeandaid.org to schedule
 a time to help.
- Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed
 From November 12th to December 24th
 volunteer Bell Ringers are needed to ring bells at
 the Salvation Army's Red Kettle locations
 throughout Bloomington/Normal. Volunteers can
 register at www.registertoring.com beginning
 October 1st. Use Group Name "2021 Ringers"
 when registering.