



Working Together Since 1989 to Help
Women and Children Break the Cycle of Poverty

Kenmare High School St. Joseph's Home
The Nurturing Place St. Mary's Residence

Frequently Asked Holiday Volunteer Questions

- 1) **Thanksgiving/Christmas food drive** – We receive wonderful donations of Food Baskets for each student, resident, and TNP mother from local churches for them to take home and/or to their extended families, but have onsite celebrations in the preceding days as well.
 - a. Each floor at SJH prepares their own feast so we typically buy all the ingredients, which include some items not on what is considered a traditional menu, so anything that is donated preserves our operating budget. Donations for Thanksgiving would be most helpful by **November 15** and by **December 13** for Christmas would enable us to plan accordingly. I can send a list of specific needs or visit our website Wish Lists for a list of daily food needs.
 - b. Kenmare is having a Thanksgiving feast on **November 23** and a Christmas Feast on **December 21 or 22**, so food donations for those meals also would offset our expenditures. *This could be an opportunity for your staff to cook with our students.*

- 2) **Santa/Giving Tree**
 - a. A wonderful volunteer has played Santa for 22 years and brings one gift to each child to unwrap at school. Then, we have been blessed to have an extended network of church and civic groups, individuals, and some businesses to provide enough gifts that we give to each mother so SHE can give her child(ren) a feast for the eyes on Christmas morning.
 - b. At KHS, our celebration on December 20 or 21st will feature a holiday concert and the dinner, so a Santa could visit then with a present for each student. We would like to provide \$50 in gift cards to each woman, \$25 for Food (Shop-Rite, BJ's), \$25 at a Retail Store (Target, Kohls, JC Penney) as well as one gift for her (sweater, purse/ tote bag, gloves, pajamas, slippers, etc. as they request). A specific list of names, clothing sizes, and needs can be provided should one be interested in a Giving Tree.

- 3) **Class Trip (with teachers) or Family Trip (for moms and kids)**

Either your corporation could do a field trip with our teachers and staff, providing a one-on-one partner or provide the tickets/box that would enable us to offer them to a set number of moms and children on the weekend.

 - a. **Disney on Ice - November 17-21, Toy Story 3** is at the Prudential Center in Newark. I was handed a post card for this one, but haven't looked at the schedule for others. However, any of the family shows at The Rock or The Meadowlands would be a treat!
 - b. **Movie Tickets and Dinner/Snack Gift Certificate**
 - c. **Radio City Christmas Spectacular**
 - d. **Madison Square Garden Theater**
 - e. **Theatre Works** – children's plays at regional theatres throughout NJ; this would be a TNP class trip as they are shown during school hours
 - f. **Liberty Science Center, Museum of Natural History, MOMA, etc.**

We also are hoping to offer cultural trips to the Kenmare students so any tickets and transportation underwriting to places like the NJPAC would be incredible.

4) **Raise Funds**

- a. Open Bar Night, Guest Bartender – charge a set amount over the door price and donate it to YSP; great way to spread the word to others in the area who don't know about us
- b. Give Us Your Change to Make a Change – collect change that we can use for incentive gifts for the women; provide gifts such as cameras, gift cards, etc.
- c. Denim Day/College Sweatshirt Day – Pay (\$5?) to dress down for our cause

Technology: we do need guidance, donations (30 laptops that have technology/software compatible to what they would use in an office, flat screen monitors, etc.; I can get a list to you).

Onsite Volunteering (more detailed descriptions attached):

The Nurturing Place

At TNP, we can set up a recurrent volunteer day (once a week, month, quarter) for your company. It will not have to be the same volunteers, just as long as there is consistent presence. Based on interest, we can offer 2-hour time slots from 9 to 11 am and slots from 2 to 4 pm for up to 10 volunteers each.

Kenmare Alternative High School

At KHS, we can do a similar recurrent setup based on your availability, as this is less restricted. There are needs for one-on-one tutoring, mentoring partnership for a select class, a career development or life experience presentation/talk to a particular class, job shadowing field trip to your office etc.

Clothing/In-kind Donations

Women's business clothes drive – A wonderful idea, but our women currently have limited opportunities to wear business attire and even more limited storage, so we have a partnership with Dress for Success to acquire business wear as needed.

However, we have a **Sharing Day** at the high school each Friday. The women are in need of casual clothes and some household items. For point of reference, clothes that older teens/young adults in an urban setting would wear best matches their personal taste and would be readily used. *We do take gently used clothing for women and children, on a limited basis due to storage limitations, so it must be in season. We do need books (novels, inspirational books, etc.) to fill up the library at KHS.*

For the children, our clothing needs are also for seasonal items. And, we always can take books, games, puzzles, and DVDs. We are not able to accept used stuffed animals.

Your Ideas

Each of these ideas, and more, came directly from individuals like you. Please call or email to discuss another opportunity for you to make a difference in the lives of our women and children during this season of giving.

Thank you for however you are able to share your blessings during this holiday season, especially.