

## Christmas in July? YES!! A Must Read!



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I love summer, I still get that overwhelming happy feeling I had as a child when summer break finally arrives. Hearing Christmas music in July, seeing holiday decorations at stores, and the Hallmark Christmas movies on repeat used to really ruin my sunshine as I never wanted even a small hint that summer was ending. **But this year is different, this year the music, decorations, and movies have inspired me to find ways to bring some sunshine to our children in their time of need.**

For many, the holidays are a time of tradition, of making memories, and making change in the lives of someone you love. But for others, the holidays are challenging. So many of the children we serve do not receive gifts for the holidays, they don't know whether they will even be with their families, and most experience a heightened level of anxiety and depression. **I ask you to join me today in creating a new tradition of making change in the lives of the children we serve by planning for the holidays in July!**

Below are 4 stress-free, impactful ways to plan for the upcoming holiday season— be sure to read them all!

### **Giving Program**

Plan a Giving Program at your workplace, civic club, country club, professional association, or neighborhood/friend group. Start today and create a group that is committed to donate monthly from now until December. On December 8, 2023, join us for breakfast to hear about the incredible change you have made. We will announce and celebrate the group that donated the highest amount. For further details on setting up the monthly giving and group tracking, contact [advancement@cfcrights.org](mailto:advancement@cfcrights.org).

### **Break the Barrier Breakfast**

Organize a holiday breakfast for your close friends or coworkers and invite us to come speak about the stories of our amazing children and how you can make a difference in their lives. Break the barriers they face by bringing a bus pass, gift card for food, or a journal to the breakfast. A bus pass ensures a child can get to therapy and school, a gift card ensures they have food during school break, and a journal is a wonderful coping tool for youth struggling over the holidays. (Lunch or Dinner works too!) [Book us soon](#) before the dates are filled!

### **Be the Change. Be a trendsetter. BE AN INSPIRATION**

Be a change maker at your workplace by proposing that your workplace forgo the holiday lunches, galas, or dinners. Instead, ask your workplace to support our youth by donating the amount typically spent on these holiday gatherings. The amount you forgo can make real and lasting change in the life of a child.\* Help us start this trend in our community. Be the first to commit to this plan so we can share with our community— you can be the change and the inspiration for others to follow. Wouldn't it be a beautiful trend to fill our social media with community leaders committed to making real change this holiday season? Help us set this trend! #changemaker #realchange #communityleader

[Contact us today](#) for more details and ways we can partner to be this change maker for the upcoming holiday season. We can also help provide the information and tools to set a donation goal for your workplace.

*\*Did you know that \$500 provides 10 children with trauma-informed mental health and education assessments? \$2,500 restores safety, stability, and security for a sibling group caught in a high-conflict custody battle— and \$8,216 covers the full daily cost for all services at Council.*

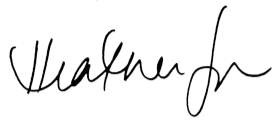
### **Have all of your holiday shopping done on December 8th!**

Block your calendar now! Join us for breakfast and bring your address book! In lieu of gifts this year, make a donation in honor of your friends and family. During the holiday season, let that person know that they have inspired change in the life of a child, a legacy that will not be forgotten. This gift will be memorialized in a beautiful card delivered to your loved ones (see example below). All of your holiday shopping can be done in just one hour while you drink hot coffee, eat pastries, and hear about the impact you are making on the life of a child. Make it a stress free holiday season- bring the addresses of your loved ones and Council staff will address and mail the cards that day on your behalf to ensure your gift arrives on time!

**Sign me up!**

A dear friend of mine always reminds me the reason for the season is to bring light and love into someone else's life. Please consider being the reason this upcoming season will be brighter for our children.

Merry Summer,



**Heather Johnson**  
Executive Director  
Council for Children's Rights

Start planning Christmas in July by emailing [advancement@cfcrights.org](mailto:advancement@cfcrights.org) today. Please let us know how you would like to get involved and if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you!

*Disclaimer- we honor and value all holiday observations and celebrations occurring in the winter. The "Christmas in July" is a gimmick/familiar concept to grab your attention and in no way meant to endorse or honor only one religion.*

### Holiday Card Example:



ANYONE WHO  
DOES ANYTHING TO HELP A CHILD  
IS A HERO TO ME.  
—  
HISTER FRED ROGERS

A generous holiday gift has been  
made in your honor to support  
the work of Council for  
Children's Rights.

This gift was made by:

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*Minimum donation for each card is \$25; cards are non-religious.*

## Summer Campaign Update

Speaking of summer...thank you so much to everyone that has contributed to our Summer Campaign! **We are only \$5,612 away from reaching our \$50,000 goal to directly support our community's children.** Summer can often be a time of uncertainty and stress for the children we serve, and they need someone in their corner that understands what they're going through. You can help give them a voice and keep summer fun by supporting Council today:

### Support Council



Council for Children's Rights | 601 East 5th Street, Suite 510, Charlotte, NC 28202  
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