

Dear Families,

The holiday season is right around the corner and with it comes our community-wide Helping Hands program.

Each year, hundreds of gifts are donated to local families in Hunterdon County through the Helping Hands program. Last year, we saw an increase in families who participated in the program but thanks to the amazing support of our community, just as many families donated gifts.

This season, we are pleased to announce that Helping Hands is partnering with the United Way of Hunterdon County. Together, we will coordinate the efforts of the community with a few minor changes to the program. Most importantly, the United Way will help ensure that each and every family participating in the Helping Hands program receives one complete set of gifts from the community.

Some additional changes include:

- **‘Family gift items’ will now be part of the program.** These items may include: pillows, pots/pans, blankets, etc., in addition to the traditional children’s gifts.
- **Gifts no longer need to be wrapped.**
- **Wrapping paper, ribbons and bows are being collected** so families may wrap the gifts themselves.

As always, a Helping Hands table will be set up at your school during Fall conference hours, with the exception of Barley Sheaf School, where tags will hang on the Giving Snowman Board. At that time, you will be able to select your tags or sign up to donate a gift card. Please send unwrapped gifts in a bag (for protection) with your Helping Hands tag securely attached to your present. Unwrapped gifts must be returned to your School Nurse **no later than Dec. 1st.**

Please feel free to contact the Helping Hands Chairman at your school for more information.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

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