



Coalition Newsletter

News You Can Use | Little Wishes 2025—Illinois

Little Wishes Holiday Program: Deadline October 15

It's time to register online or over-the-phone for the Little Wishes holiday program! Thanks to KSDK 5 On Your Side and thousands of generous donors, you can register your children impacted by foster care to receive special holiday gifts.

Children are eligible if they live in the IL counties of Bond, Clinton, Washington, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, or Randolph and are currently in the foster care system, or were in foster care and now live in one of these counties with their adoptive or guardianship family.

Step 1:

Locate your **Coalition Caregiver ID**, which can be found above your address on the outside of this newsletter.

Step 2:

Find a safe address to provide for gift delivery. Some shippers leave boxes at the front door! We receive calls every year from caregivers who didn't receive gifts that were shipped to them. Unfortunately, we can't replace gifts that were delivered. Note: please do not use a P.O. Box number—some shippers require an actual address.

Step 3:

To submit a request, you'll need to provide the name and phone number for each child's **current foster care case manager or adoption/guardianship subsidy worker**. We WILL verify this information.

Step 4:

Choose gifts!

- Youth currently in foster care who are under 8 years old may request 1 gift from the white sheets of the catalog
- Youth currently in foster care who are 8-20 years old should request 1 gift from the white sheets and 1 gift from the yellow sheet of the catalog
- Youth who live with their adoptive/guardianship family may request 1 gift from the white sheets of the catalog (until their 18th birthday)

Step 5:

Submit your wish requests.

Submitting your own wish requests online is preferred! It's easy and helps avoid errors! Go to:

foster-adopt.org/wish

What if I can't submit my gift request online?

If you cannot submit your gift requests online, please register by phone during our three phone registration days: Tuesday, October 7, Tuesday, October 14, or Wednesday, October 15, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. at (314) FOSTER-3.

If online and phone registration are not possible, you can fill out the enclosed form and send it back to us. If you mail in your referral form and it is filled out incorrectly or if inappropriate gifts are chosen, we will select age-appropriate gifts for the child.

Questions?

Call **(314) FOSTER-3** or email littlewishes@foster-adopt.org.

Important Upcoming Dates

Phone registration for Motion for Kids (until all spots are filled)	Phone registration for Motion for Kids (until all spots are filled)	Phone registration for Motion for Kids (until all spots are filled)	Phone registration for Little Wishes holiday program	Phone registration for Little Wishes holiday program	Phone registration for Little Wishes holiday program	First holiday gifts will start getting delivered	Last day holiday gifts could arrive at your address
Friday, October 3	Monday, October 6	Tuesday, October 7	Tuesday, October 7	Tuesday, October 14	Wednesday, October 15	Wednesday, November 12	Monday, December 22



Register for Motion for Kids Party

Each December, the Bar Association of St. Louis throws a fun holiday party for families in the St. Louis region. For years, our families have enjoyed an event filled with gifts, activities, and lots of joy. Each child registered for the event requests one gift. Motion for Kids donors purchase these gifts for families to pick up at the party!

Motion for Kids will be hosting this year's party on Saturday, December 6, 10 a.m.–noon.

Who can register?

You must be a family with foster/adopted/guardianship children who are 17 years old or younger. **Only people living in your household may attend.**

When can I register?

Registration is by phone only. It starts on **Friday, October 3** and continues on **Monday, October 6** and **Tuesday, October 7** until all spots are filled.

How do I register?

Call (314) FOSTER-3 **between 9:00–5:00 p.m.** on the registration dates listed. Spots are limited and filled on a first come, first served basis! We will not take registrations by voicemail or email. **Tip:** For the first few hours on the first day, we are always flooded with calls! It can be very difficult to get through. Please anticipate long wait times, and we will answer your call as soon as we can. If you experience this on Friday, October 3, please try calling again later on Friday afternoon or on Monday morning.

What do I need to register?

When you call, you must have a specific gift request priced around **\$50** for each child. Be specific, including brands, titles, and sizing: (i.e. “Lego Minecraft set” or “Boys t-shirt, red or black, Nike or Adidas, size Youth 10-12”). This helps the donors know exactly what to get your child. **Gift card or cash requests are NOT accepted.**

What if I can't attend the event?

All gifts must be picked up at the event, no exceptions.

Fall Festival & Outdoor Extravaganza

Check your email for details about a big event on October 12 your family won't want to miss!

We're beyond excited to partner with the Greater St. Louis Area Boy Scouts to bring you a Fall Festival & Outdoor Extravaganza at Beaumont Discovery Base on October 12! We couldn't finalize the registration details before this newsletter went to the printer, so be sure to look at your email to find the registration information!

At this Extravaganza, your family will enjoy a full day packed with outdoor adventure, hands-on learning, and family fun for every age.

Here's just a glimpse of what's waiting for you: Horseback riding, a climbing tower, archery, a life-size pirate ship, wildlife encounters and much more! From thrilling activities to creative play, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

