Frequently Asked Questions

Is it ok to donate money to Emmaus instead of buying gifts?
Yes. Emmaus sponsors our annual “Tree of Love” campaign to raise critically needed funds that support our programs throughout the year. A 25 foot tree is erected in front of the Emmaus Family House at 150 How Street in Haverhill. Each $10 gift will light one candle on the “Tree of Love”. Gifts can be made in honor or memory of your friends and loved ones. If you wish to make contributions in lieu of giving holiday gifts, Emmaus will provide you with acknowledgement cards to give to your family members and friends. NOTE: Donations must be received by December 15th to insure delivery of acknowledgement cards by 12/23/17. Please send an email to margot@emmausinc.org if you wish to receive more information about the “Tree of Love” campaign or visit www.emmausinc.org.

Can we meet the family/individual we purchase gifts for?
As an agency that serves families who are coping with complex issues, it is our responsibility by law to protect the identity of the families we serve. In the interest of client and donor confidentiality, we do not allow sponsors to meet our families. Also, we like to let parents experience the joy of giving gifts to their children and the opportunity to honor their own family traditions.

Should we wrap the gifts?
You may use gift bags/tissue paper but we ask that you do not wrap the gifts.
Please tag each gift and specify the item/gender/size.

How much should we get for individuals?
We ask that you purchase gifts whose values generally do not exceed $25.

Can I just send in gift cards?
Yes! In fact we prefer gift cards in denominations of up to $25 per card. They are particularly helpful so that needed items can be purchased up to the last minute.

Can I do a conduct a used coat/winter item drive?
In order to avoid an overabundance, please call us before starting a coat drive. We do ask that you first get all gently used items dry cleaned and please leave them in the plastic covering; of course we do prefer new items. Please call (978.377.0639) for complete information. You may also want to review our agency Wish List for other “drive” ideas.

Are my donations tax deductible?
Emmaus is happy to acknowledge donations for tax purposes. However, current IRS regulations prohibit us from including a monetary value of the donation on our acknowledgement letter. We will provide a description of your donation on our letter, but in order for you to receive tax credit for your donation; you should retain receipts for the items or gift cards you purchase. These receipts, attached to the acknowledgement letter that we will send to you after the holiday, can be submitted to your tax preparer. In a nutshell, if you are planning to submit your donation for tax credit, be sure to save your receipts!

Will your recipients be notified who donated their gifts?
Yes! We appreciate the support from our community during the holiday season and encourage our residents to learn more about our donors. You may identify yourself by including your church, group or
organization's name; however, we ask that you please do not provide your personal information or advertise for your church, group or organization.

Are there specific Donation Drop-Off dates that we should be aware of?
Yes. Listed on the following page is a Holiday Donation Drop-Off schedule. If you cannot make one of the following dates and times, please contact the Development Team at 978.377.0639 to discuss other options.

Holiday Donation Drop Off Schedule *(preferred dates/times)*

Thanksgiving Donation Drop-Off Schedule *(preferred dates/times)*

Gift Cards for Thanksgiving can be mailed to:
Emmaus
ATTN: Development
PO Box 568
Haverhill, MA 01831

Or delivered to the D'Youville Center for Social Justice between the hours of 10:00am-5:00pm. at:
101 Winter Street
Haverhill, MA

Perishable food, **including fresh and frozen turkeys** will also be accepted at 101 Winter Street, Haverhill, MA on the following date.

*Monday, November 20, 2017 between 9:00 am and 7:00pm*

December Donation Drop-Off Schedule *(preferred dates/times)*

Perishable food, **including fresh and frozen turkeys** will also be accepted at 101 Winter Street, Haverhill, MA on any of the dates listed below.

Holiday gifts and gift cards for Emmaus families and individuals will be accepted at the D'Youville Center for Social Justice – (101 Winter St., Haverhill, MA) during the following dates/times:

*Saturday, December 16, 2017 --- 10:00am - 3:00pm*
*Tuesday, December 19, 2017 --- 10:00am –7:00pm*
*Wednesday, December 20, 2017 – 9:00am – 5:00pm*