



Adopting an Angel

The Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Angel Tree Program in Memphis. Introduced by the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary in 1986, the first Angel Tree served 599 needy children and senior citizens. In recent years, over 5,000 children and seniors have been served per year. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions.

Who sponsors Angel Tree and what is it?

The Salvation Army sponsors Angel Tree to provide holiday gifts for children age 12 and younger and for seniors age 62 and above.

Where do the Angels come from?

The program is open to children and seniors whose applications are carefully screened by The Salvation Army.

Where is the Angel Tree located?

The official Angel Trees are located at Carrefour at Kirby Woods, Hickory Ridge Mall, Oak Court Mall, and Wolfchase Galleria. Angels may be adopted from November 18, to December 9. Some corporations have their own tree with Angels supplied by The Salvation Army.

Can anyone adopt an Angel?

Yes, you may adopt as many Angels as you like - one child or a family, one senior or a group of seniors. **However, to be considered a group adopter, you must adopt 15 or more.** This means we deliver your angels and supplies come to you to pick up your gifts. This is an excellent holiday group project.

How do I adopt an Angel?

From November 18 through December 9, go to one of the official Angel Tree sites to select an Angel from the tree or, if adopting 15 plus, you may adopt your angels through me.

After adopting an Angel, what do I do?

Your Angel tag will provide you with the Angel's first name, age, sex, sizes, and the item(s) they

would **like** or need. Please purchase new gifts for your Angel and return them to the mall where you selected your Angel. For security reasons, **please do not wrap gifts.**

How much should I spend?

There is no set amount to spend, but on average, each Angel should receive about 3 gifts with a mix of toys and/or clothing items for children and appropriate gifts for seniors. If there are no clothes requested, it is not necessary to purchase those items. Please keep in mind the items on the tag are **wishes only**. It is not necessary for you to provide exactly what they are requesting, as long as the items are new and age/gender appropriate.

How are the gifts distributed?

The gifts are distributed the middle of December from the Angel Tree Warehouse, using the code numbers that were assigned to the individual Angels. Parents are given a specific time to come and pick up the gifts for their children. To ensure all gifts go to the person for whom they were purchased, **all gifts must be returned to The Salvation Army by December 12.**

What is a Forgotten Angel?

Some angels are not adopted or their gifts are not returned in time for distribution. The "forgotten angel" allows individuals to purchase generic gifts for children or seniors to ensure all Angels receive gifts.