



My Joyful Heart

Sharing the love of Christ with
Chicagoland's children in need



The best way to find love
Is to find God.



"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my soul shall be joyful in my God." - *Isaiah 61:10*





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What a blessing 2019 was for My Joyful Heart! We closed the year by filling more than 1,000 gift bags during our 12 Days of Christmas shopping event. In November, we shared an amazing evening of dinner and dancing with you to celebrate our kids. We were both honored and thrilled for the recognition given to My

Joyful Heart throughout the year... Rotary Foundation, Paul Harris Fellow Award, Suburban Service League, featured guest at their annual gala and Daughters of the American Revolution award just to name a few. WOW!

Once again, we were fortunate to bring in new schools and kids, welcome many new volunteers and gain new supporters. You continue to amaze us by meeting—and **exceeding**—our challenges; from collecting brown bags, toothpaste and shampoo to donating raffle prizes, cookies and, of course, your time and resources. Your generosity with our Giving Tree warms our hearts beyond words.

THANK YOU for helping My Joyful Heart put smiles on faces of our local kids in need!

We couldn't fulfill our mission without the help of so many wonderful friends. In the words of one of our kids (8-year-old, Kiran), *"I want to bless you like you blessed me."*



THANK
YOU!



Stories from My Joyful Heart

Starting the new year with a challenge



We want every child to sleep a little easier, so we are collecting new standard size bed pillows and pillow cases. **Our goal is to collect 1,100 pillows and pillow cases by September 1st.**

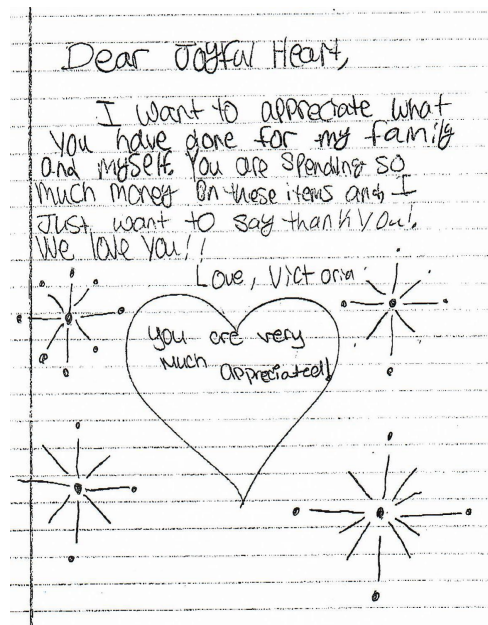
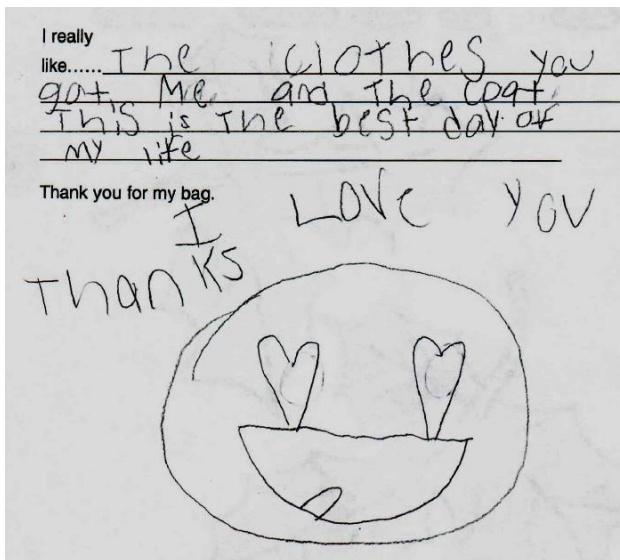
Can you help us reach our goal? Maybe you can hold a pillow drive in your area? Or donate a pillow (or two)?

You can also help by visiting our charity shop and making a donation toward the purchase of these items. Please help our kids have “sweet dreams”.

We'll keep you updated on our progress throughout the year. Thank you!

[VISIT OUR CHARITY SHOP](#)

With special thanks from our kids





Dear My Joyful heart
my name is Kiran
boy and I am 8
years old. I want to
thank you for the
warm gifts you
blessed me with one
day I want to bless
someone like you blessed
me.



Whooooo needs you? We do!

Do you knit? Crochet? Can you help us provide each child in our program with a warm winter scarf? Scarves for both boys and girls are needed. The majority of our kids are in the 6-14 age range.

We have some donated yarn available in our Ministry Center if you'd like to stop in. Thanks for giving your time and talent!



Bunco is back



Back by popular demand! Join us on **Friday, April 24th** for an incredible night of fun. Be sure to check our website and Facebook for more information and to get your tickets before they sell out!

And...we're planning a second Bunco in the summer!

Mark your calendars for **August 28th** and tell your friends.

[PURCHASE TICKETS NOW](#)

A note to our sponsors

To all of our sponsors: you have our unending gratitude for investing in the life of a child in need. **You truly are making a difference!**

Many of you have asked about writing to your child. If you would like to include a note or add a special gift with the summer gift event, we'll need it **on or before April 1st.**



You can drop it off at our ministry center, mail it to us, or even email a note to information@myjoyfulheart.org and we'll print it here.

Please do not include any personal information in your correspondence.



Got Toys?

Our inventory is very low...can you help us by donating new or gently used toys?
Card games, board games, puzzles, dolls & accessories, toy cars, action figures
and sport balls are all items we can sure use to help fill summer gift bags.

You can drop off your donations at our Ministry Center in Mokena between the hours of 9am and 2pm, Monday through Friday.

It's always best to call us first (815) 806-1700 to make sure someone is there.



Our Wish List

- Pillows & Pillowcases (new)
- Toys (new or gently used)
- Hygiene items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes)
- Underwear (new, all sizes)
- Amazon Gift Cards (to purchase office supplies)

