

2019 Giving Tree Donations – Report to St. Charles Parishioners

submitted with gratitude by Ruthanne Otto, Chair

INNterim

We delivered two car-loads of individual Christmas gifts for each of the 10 mothers and their 20 children -- bags generously filled with their wishes for their family. For the moms, St. Charles provided **shoes and clothing for work, toiletries, bus pass, headphones and gift cards**. Giving Tree participants who took **green tags** not only bought **warm coats, snow boots, sleepwear & slippers**, as well as **school clothes, and baby clothes** for the kids, but added so much fun – **lots of dolls, cars and trucks, some educational tech, Legos, slime, puzzles, books, a dress-up costume, arts and crafts and sports gear**. We deliver a week early so that the mothers can help Santa give the gifts to their children on Christmas.



Marian House

By purchasing items requested on the **yellow tags**, St. Charles Giving Tree participants helped provide approximately 50 homeless women that Marian House helps transition from Dependence to Independence each year with the linens they receive when they arrive. **18 bed-in-a-bag comforter/ sheet sets, plus 8 comforters, 5 twin bed sheets, 21 mattress covers, 32 pillows, 22 bath towel/washcloth sets, 6 hand towels and 25 extra washcloths, plus almost 90 full-size packages of bath toiletries and dozens of small personal care items, gloves, socks, and pantyhose** were donated to help meet their needs this year.



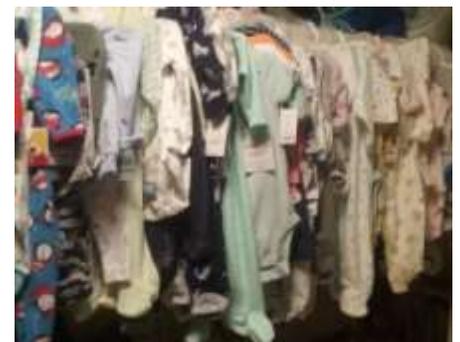
Pregnancy Center West

The wonderful Giving Tree collection for the babies included the items requested on the **blue tags**: **2377 diapers, 80 packages of wipes and 25 packages of ointment, 234 baby bath items, 15 crib sheets plus 2 mattress pads, 41 bodysuits, 34 sleepers, 28 baby outfits, plus dozens of other clothing items and baby-related**



needs, 24 monetary donations (\$855) to be used to purchase car seats and to sustain their need to help new moms all year, and a very generous donation for the sonogram program. In addition we donated **3 gently used strollers, a diaper bag, baby carrier, bathtub and books and toys, and 25 used clothing items**. Expectant moms participate in the "Achieve and Receive" program, earning the baby items they need by taking pre-

natal, parenting, and self-help classes.



Autumn Lake Healthcare at Pikesville

104 elderly residents received individual Christmas gifts that were personally selected by St. Charles parishioners – **radios, books, purses, grooming products, and treats** to let them know someone is thinking of them. We filled **red tag** needs for **sweaters, shirts, warm socks, hat and scarf sets, blankets, and throws**, lots of **sweat suits, pajamas, nightgowns, and**



robes through our Giving Tree program. We gave **jewelry, makeup, knitting yarn, stuffed animals, chocolate, gum and soda, writing materials, coloring books, and puzzle books** bringing joy to so many.



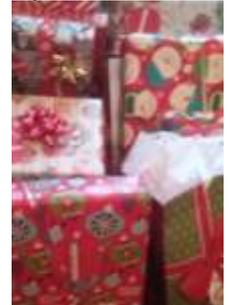
Breaking Bread with the Hungry at Fr. Ray's Parish, St. Vincent de Paul

St. Charles parishioners again contributed generously to the poor and homeless men through the **purple tags**, much to the delight and gratitude of Fr. Ray who says we “tend that Tree...with such care and compassion”. We delivered **284 boxers, 184 undershirts, 95 warm hats, 125 pairs of gloves, 12 pairs of thermal socks, 2 thermal pants**, Parishioners also added a generous box of **shaving cream, razors and other toiletries** and a **large bag of clean, warm, lightly used clothing, including coats** which were gladly welcomed as well. Our donations will be distributed at St. Vincent's Friday night dinners.



God's blessings and our thanks to all who took a tag and fulfilled the wishes so generously.

Thanks to all those who offered help wherever it was needed, including, but not limited to: Tom Streicher, Jim and Cathy Bonner, Jim Dieringer, Bob Sears, Lori Mooney, Pamela Wright, Sandy & Tom Feulner, Bill Cooper, Sheilah Davenport, Amanda Gallagher, Andres Martinez Berrigan, those who helped take the gifts to the rectory after each Mass, the Giving Tree committee who make this happen, and all you anonymous donors, angels and helpers who make this outreach possible.



Giving Tree Committee:

Julianne DeMarco/Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Charles Borromeo #2723 - INNterim

Donna Cooper -- Marian House

Ruthanne Otto -- Pregnancy Center West

Tina Artes -- Autumn Lake Healthcare at Pikesville

Tom Otto -- St. Vincent's Breaking Bread with the Hungry