



# ALTERNATIVE GIFT GIVING CATALOG

***Wishing you could find the perfect gift?*** Here's an idea - support children and a great non-profit organization, and provide a gift for your loved one at the same time!

Covenant to Care for Children's (CCC) Alternative Gift Catalog offers a unique opportunity to give a gift of hope to a child in need. You can purchase items which will directly benefit the precious children that CCC exists to serve. Think about it - one stop shopping for Christmas, Hanukkah, birthdays or other special occasions. Gifts might include:

- children's necessities like diapers and formula
- backpack for school
- training for a mentor
- a week of summer camp

Whatever your gift list includes, there will be something you can "give" to a member of your circle of loved ones. How wonderful for them to receive a card from you stating that a grant writer was able to prepare a grant that may lead to CCC receiving \$25,000! Or, for a child gift-giver to know that another child now has a new backpack because of, and thanks to, them. This is an excellent way to teach a child about sharing.

We encourage you to review the items in the catalog, which provide multiple gift options benefiting children in need. Just think of the impact you and that special someone will make on the life of a child. A confirmation of your gift order will be sent to you in the form of a letter that can also be used for tax purposes.

## ***RESOURCES TO IMPROVE CHILDREN'S LIVES***

### **1. TRAIN A MENTOR**

CCC's Mentor Program matches teenage youth and teen mothers and fathers with caring adults from faith communities. Our Coordinator looks for individuals who are interested in mentoring a young mother/father. She/he then determines if they are right for that position, after which they are trained, and the mentoring begins. This means a young mother/father will have a friend, learn that someone cares, and at the same time learn tools in the area of parenting, nutrition, the importance of schooling, and even assistance in a job search and training. Your gift to a friend or family member can be to facilitate one or more mentoring relationships.

- 1. Train a mentor.....\$35.00

### **2. CAMPERSHIPS**

Each summer we learn of hundreds of children who would love the opportunity to go to camp, to be in the country, experience nature and openness, learn crafts, enjoy playing in and around lakes and streams, and meeting other children. Yet, without assistance we cannot help them get there. But, you can! Give the gift of making it possible for a child to go to camp for a week next summer!

- 2a. One day of camp.....\$75.00
- 2b. One week of overnight camp.....\$250.00

### **3. MENTORING ASSISTANCE FUND**

This fund was created through gifts made in memory of James A. Stover, a seven year old boy who died in October 2003, in a tragic accident. His parents asked that contributions be made to Covenant to Care for Children in his memory, and the Stover family and their friends and colleagues made gifts to a fund intended to assist with our mentoring program, which provides support to children and young adults who are matched with mentors in the community. It is a program that has yielded wonderful results, enabling people to get a job, go to school, develop special skills, care for a child whose parent or parents are working hard to make some progress. The children and young adults in the program often have special needs: college textbooks, tuition, transportation, etc.

3. Mentoring Assistance Fund.....\$25.00

**4. NEW BACKPACKS**

For children who live in poverty and may not go to school because they are ashamed that they don't have the "right things," you can help a lot!

4a. Single Backpack..... \$15.00  
 4b. 50 Backpacks.....\$500.00

*One social worker has said: "You can't imagine how great it made the kids feel to have all those school supplies. They were so happy to have new backpacks like other kids going to school. It really improved their self-esteem. When I first walked in the door they looked sad. After I gave them those backpacks they were excited and their eyes just sparkled."*

**5. LEARNING: CHILDREN'S BOOKS AND TOYS**

There have been many studies that tell us of the importance of reading to children. They love having a book to look at, call their own and have read to them, all of which prepare them to read on their own. Children also learn about the world through their play. Your donation can provide age-appropriate books and toys to enhance children's lives.

5. Children's books and toys.....\$20.00

**6. CHILDREN'S NECESSITIES**

Some children have needs that cannot be met by their parents. Your donation in this category helps fill the gaps by providing any of the following that are needed by the children CCC serves:

- Nutritious formula - Clean diapers - Safe car seat - New underwear - Clean towels & wash-cloths - Toiletries

6. Children's necessities.....\$25.00

*A new mother excitedly brought her baby home from the hospital with the special formula he needed. She thought it would last for months but quickly learned how much a baby eats and soon it was gone. Her paycheck was not due for two weeks. She contacted her social worker for help, who in turn contacted CCC. CCC was able to give her gift certificates and a small amount of money which enabled her to feed her baby until payday.*

*Last year, at least 200 packages of diapers were distributed by CCC to*

*young mothers in need, as a result of calls from DCF social workers.*

*A car seat is critical for safely transporting a child to a doctor's appointment, the store, the hospital, or to visit a friend or family member. As the child grows, car seats of different sizes are needed. Give the gift of safe travel to a baby or child.*

## **CRITICAL PROGRAM SUPPORT**

### **7. ADOPT-A-SOCIAL WORKER COVENANT BENEFACTOR**

Become a special sponsor of CCC's flagship program, Adopt-A-Social Worker. Your sponsorship of a covenant between a faith community, social worker and CCC will signal your commitment to ensuring that our adopting congregations can continue to provide goods to Connecticut children each year. Each covenant can result in 200 children receiving goods and services. Give the gift of sponsoring a covenant for:

7a. One week.....	\$25.00
7b. One month.....	\$100.00
7c. One year.....	\$1,200.00

### **8. GRANT WRITING**

As sources of available funds decrease and children's needs increase, the grant writer at CCC searches for additional sources to fund CCC's programs. The dollars used to support the grant writer can potentially be multiplied hundreds of times!

8. Grant writing.....	\$75.00
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*Through a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, CCC was able to improve its Critical Goods Program.*

### **9. TRANSPORTING CRITICAL NEEDS**

Each week a truck is used at least twenty hours to distribute goods that are critical and legally required to facilitate a child being properly cared for in a home with a parent or family member. CCC makes weekly deliveries of clothes, food, diapers, furniture, and appliances to people throughout the state.

9a. Maintenance (gas, oil, tires, repairs) and insurance.....	\$50.00
9b. Full time driver/coordinator.....	\$100.00

*Last year \$2,500 was needed for gasoline for our truck to deliver critical goods to families in need all around the state.*

## **REUNIFYING FAMILIES AND KEEPING THEM TOGETHER**

### **10. FURNITURE**

Ideally CCC receives a donation of a sofa, bed, crib or dresser just before the need arises; however, that infrequently happens. Timely delivery could move a family out of a shelter and into an apartment. In addition, social workers tell us that frequently CCC makes it possible to return a child home. There are strict state regulations that describe an adequate living situation necessary for a child's care. You can make the difference. Your contribution helps us purchase items for these identified needs.

10. Furniture.....	\$40.00
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*A young boy facing placement in foster care wanted to be placed with the foster family caring for his siblings. Unfortunately, that foster family could not provide the child with his own bed, precluding his placement with his family. CCC located and delivered a bed for him. He is now living with his siblings and flourishing in this foster home.*

## ***SPECIAL PROJECT***

### 11. ENDOWMENT FUND

An expanded endowment fund allows CCC to develop a stable financial base that generates income to cover programming needs. The larger the endowment, the less we have to identify new sources of funds. This enhances our ability to care for Connecticut's children.

11. Amount of gift.....\$\_\_\_\_\_

## ***Covenant to Care for Children Programs***

Our **Adopt A Social Worker** program works with over 200 faith communities to benefit thousands of Connecticut children by providing the critical material needs that help stabilize their living situations. Without the efforts of over 1,000 volunteers and donors, this initiative would not be a success.

Our **Critical Goods Distribution** program assists social workers who are attempting to reunify and preserve families by providing them with goods such as furniture and clothing. During any given fiscal year, we deliver an average of \$115,000 worth of usable goods to families in need. On a yearly basis, around 500 children are provided with beds, dressers, a table to eat at and do homework on and other goods that they too often go without.

Our **Reach One Youth** mentoring program matches the power of infinite love to youth with infinite potential by assisting highly at-risk teens, teen parents and their children. This program creates partnerships between youth, mentors, congregations and the broader community by providing opportunities to nurture and cultivate the resilient spirit found in all youth.

Our mentoring program, **Mom, Mentor, and Me** mentors children whose mothers are incarcerated in the New Haven, Waterbury, New Britain and Greater Bridgeport areas. Although mentoring children of prisoners is not new, this is the first program that focuses specifically on children who have been detached from their mothers due to incarceration. M3 creates and supports relationships between youth, mentors and faith communities to provide the support needed for these at risk youth.

We assist in operating and supporting an emergency food pantry housed in the New Britain DCF office. Families who experience a food crisis receive a stop-gap three day supply of non-perishable foods. We also collaborate with the Asylum Hill Congregational Church Crisis Food Support Program, assisting DCF clients in Hartford and West Hartford through home delivery of a two week supply of non-perishable foods as well as client selected foods purchased from local grocers with AHCC funds. Through this collaboration, every year, an average of 600 children and 250 adults receive emergency food assistance alleviating the serious problem of hunger.

120 Mountain Avenue, Suite 212  
Bloomfield, CT 06002  
Please consider us in your estate plans.



## COVENANT TO CARE FOR CHILDREN - ALTERNATIVE GIFT CATALOG

### ORDERING INFORMATION:

After making your gift selections on the reverse, enter your instructions below so CCC can fill your order. For each recipient, indicate name, address, item number(s), and type of gift card you would like sent:

**A** – Holiday      **B** – All occasion      **C** – Christmas

If CCC is to mail the card(s) to your recipient(s), be sure to indicate your message to each recipient, for example, "Love, Mom & Dad."

A description of your gift will be included with the card. If you wish, all the card(s) and description(s) can be mailed directly to you for mailing.

If you have questions, call the CCC office at (860) 243-1806.

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Item #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Message \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Item #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Message \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Item #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Message \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Item #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Message \_\_\_\_\_

If you are sending more than four gifts, please copy and use an additional page.



## Covenant to Care for Children

*Helping Connecticut's  
Children in Need.*

120 Mountain Ave. Suite 212  
Bloomfield, CT 06002  
Telephone (860) 243-1806  
Fax (860) 243-0100

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