

Riverdale Presbyterian Church's Alternative Christmas Gifts Catalog 2011

"Giving to those we may never meet"



The selections in this catalog will enable you to buy a gift in honor of someone you do know that can benefit someone you don't know. All the organizations are non-governmental and non-profit , and some of the areas represented are the areas of concern are: hunger, health, the environment, education , micro-economics, and disaster relief, with a wide geographical distribution. Happy Shopping!



Riverdale Presbyterian Church Gifts

The following gifts support local organizations and causes. RPC will send each organization the amounts received from our purchases.

RPC MIDNIGHT RUN - Following an itinerary given by the parent organization in Dobbs Ferry, a caravan of vehicles and RPC youth and adults drive to locations in NYC where the homeless congregate to distribute donated clothes, toiletries ,food and beverages. **Our next Midnight Run is January 27, 2012.**

#RPC-1 - A package of 6 pair of new socks\$5.00

#RPC-2 - A share in defraying the cost of the next Midnight Run (January,2012)... \$10.00

COLLEGE DIRECTIONS AWARENESS PROGRAM - **Kingsbridge Heights Community Center's** long-term and successful program guides financially disadvantaged students through the college admissions process, including entrance exam preparation, applying for financial assistance, and visits to college campuses.(Please see other side)

#RPC-3 - A share in the College Direction Program at KHCC..... \$20.00

INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS OF THE NORTHWEST BRONX – This organization ministers to the needs of the homebound elderly by providing human companionship in their homes, assistance with household chores, and transportation to and from medical appointments.

#RPC-4 – Round-trip subway or bus fare to enable someone to visit a homebound senior citizen**\$4.50**

#RPC-5 – Round-trip bus/subway and taxi cab fare to enable a volunteer to take a homebound senior citizen to a doctor’s appointment**\$25.00**

LOVE KITCHEN- Since 1989, Love Kitchen in Inwood ,NY has been serving meals and providing parcels of food to families and individuals in need since 1989.

#RPC-6 - A meal a day for a week for one person**\$7.00**

#RPC-7 – 3 meals in a week for a family of 4**\$10.00**

KINGSBRIDGE/RIVERDALE/MARBLE HILL FOOD & HUNGER PROJECT- Located down the hill at the Church of the Mediator, KRMHF&HP provides weekly boxes of food to families in need.

#RPC-8 – A box of a week’s worth of non-perishable food for a family.....**\$50.00**

OVERNIGHT HOMELESS SHELTER AT ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETY – A safe bed, a cooked meal in the evening and breakfast in the morning are served to a group of homeless men who are serviced by a daytime Bronx drop-in center with no beds by our neighbors on Fieldston Rd.

#RPC-9 – A share in cost of providing dinner and breakfast to the homeless at the Ethical Culture Society.....**\$10.00**

CITY HARVEST – This is the only food rescue organization in NYC, supporting over 600 community food programs and 250,000 New Yorkers each week. City Harvest trucks go to participating restaurants, supermarkets, catering halls, bakeries, and other food-producing businesses to gather unused foods that are then distributed to hungry New Yorkers. Your donation will keep their trucks on the road.

#RPC-10 – This gift amount lets City Harvest rescue almost 25 lbs of food for hungry New Yorkers.....**\$5.00**

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)

“Relief, development, and peace in the name of Christ”

SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS IN NEPAL, UGANDA AND THE UKRAINE – Through summer camps, support groups, and cultural activities young people in these area receive preventive education, support, and fellowship in small groups,

#MCC-1 – One month of support for a young person with HIV/AIDS **\$15.00**

FRESH FILTERED WATER IN KENYA, TANZANIA AND MOZAMBIQUE –

MCC supports the construction of **sand dams**, which both filter and store rain and other runoff water, which raises the water table and makes water available to crops and tree nurseries.

#MCC-2 -- A bag of cement used in the construction of a sand dam **\$7.00**

FRINDSHIP AND ASSISTANCE FOR NEW U.S. IMMIGRANTS – Newly arrived immigrants and exiles in the U.S. can get assistance in MCC immigration centers across the country where their documents are examined to help them navigate the immigration system and process.

#MCC-3 – Consultation and assistance for one new U.S. immigrant **\$40.00**

HEALTHY SOIL FOR REFUGEES THROUGH COMPOSTING IN LEBANON – People living in refugee settlements in Lebanon benefit from the partnership MCC has with Popular Aid for Relief and Development as they learn to transform household waste into nutrient-bearing compost, which both increases the yield in family gardens and reduces the populations of rodents and insects as the volume of trash is reduced.

#MCC-4 – Materials and handouts for 10 people to learn about composting **\$7.00**

#MCC-5 – Provide a composting container **\$70.00**

Alternative Gifts International (AGI)

AGI serves as a focal point for non-governmental, Christian-based organizations in all parts of the world which are committed to realizing the United Nations Millennium Development Goals for the poorest people of our planet.

EDUCATION FOR ORPHANED CHILDREN IN CHINA

In the remote area of Northeast China, impoverished children are often abandoned, orphaned, or left with family members who are ill-equipped to care for them. These children are found scared, hungry, and living in deplorable situations. Additionally, most drop out of school due to these conditions, perpetuating a cycle of poverty.

THRESHOLD MINISTRIES INCORPORATED's (TMI) orphanage, *Hope House for Children*, opened in 2005 to provide a home, food, love, and a brighter future for China's orphans in this region through education. Believing that education is the best way to safeguard them from a future of poverty, it is the goal of Hope House to develop a means for self reliance in each child.

#AG-1 – School fees for one full year for one orphaned Chinese youth\$17.00

#AG-2 – School uniform, textbooks, and supplies for one youth \$66.00

JOB TRAINING & SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

Domestic abuse and unemployment are daily realities for many women across the USA. Organizations that provide job training and social services enable them to secure sustainable, living-wage jobs, support their families and safely transition from poverty to economic self-sufficiency. Featured here are two such organizations. **LA MUJER OBRERA** (The Working Woman) in El Paso, Texas, uses a women-centered curriculum that provides Mexican immigrant women with job training for the 21st century. This innovative approach to education combines community organizing with the creation of economic alternatives and bilingual workforce development. The **WOMEN'S INITIATIVE NETWORK** (WIN) of Wichita, Kansas, serves women escaping domestic violence. Survivors of abuse are provided with emotional support as well as educational and employment opportunities through a social services model that fosters healing, self-worth, and self-sufficiency.

#AG-3 – One hour of job readiness and life skills training\$7.00

#AG-4 – One week of job readiness and life skills training\$180.00

NUTRITION FOR CHILDREN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS IN HAITI

In Haiti , many children under age five are suffering from malnutrition, especially since the earthquake of January 2010. While school-aged children in Haiti receive one meal each day, there are no supplemental meals for children who are not in school. To meet this urgent need, **PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT** has initiated *Children's Feeding Program*. With the help of local medical staff, malnourished children can begin receiving their first supply of nutritional supplements. They then attend the food program Monday through Friday where they receive a well-balanced meal with protein. After only one month in the program, nearly 100% of children are no longer in danger of being malnourished.

#AG-5 – Meals and nutritional supplements for 1 child for 1 week**\$6.00**

#AG-6 – Meals and nutritional supplements for 1 child for 1 month**\$28.00**

PLANT 1 BILLION TREES IN BOLIVIA

The Atlantic Rainforest has been severely degraded by the expansion of agriculture, exotic plantations, and ranching. Even with only 7% remaining, it is still one of the most biologically diverse regions of the world and provides clean water for more than 130 million people in Brazil. The forest is also home to 23 species of primates, 1,000 species of birds, and more than 20,000 species of plants, many of them found nowhere else on Earth. Previous efforts to protect the existing forest and to promote reforestation have had a limited reach, with no clear model for achieving the needed large-scale reforestation.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY has committed to restoring 2.5 million acres of the forest with one billion native trees. The strategies being used include planting seedlings in severely deforested places and accelerating natural forest regeneration. This broad initiative helps to place these forests on a path to recovery while also protecting wildlife.

#AG-7 – Provide for the planting of 20 native Rain Forest trees**\$20.00**