



## Holiday Giving Over the Years

Each year staff, board members, volunteers, and community partners come together to make the Holiday Workshop one of our most successful and impactful annual events for Shelter Services. Since 2018, the workshop has served over **234 families** and **468 children**. More than **2,382 toys** have been wrapped in the workshop and given away.

## Let's Celebrate! 2021 Holiday Workshop Joyful Results

The joy and wonder the children at Van Buren experience each year because of the Holiday Workshop is made possible through the generosity and efforts of each person involved. Families staying at Van Buren are faced with an overwhelming range of barriers and stresses caused by a homeless crisis. The Holiday Workshop helps to decrease some of these stresses by giving families a reason to smile and feel joy. It shows our community's most vulnerable population that there is a network of support behind them that truly cares.

Each year, families who previously were at Van Buren shelter return to give toys to the workshop because they remember what a difference it made in their lives the holiday before. The Holiday Workshop has given hope to so many individuals. The loving service our volunteers provide and the experience parents get to have in the workshop explains the overwhelmingly positive feedback received. **Thank you to all of our staff, board members, volunteers, and community partners that made this year's Holiday Workshop a great success!**



**Watch the video for a tour of  
this year's Holiday Workshop!**

## What is the Holiday Workshop ?

Van Buren's Holiday Workshop is designed to make sure the families staying at our shelter have everything they need to give their child a magical experience for the holidays. Everything in the workshop

is donated by the community and includes toys and gifts for kids ages 0-17, blankets, books, socks, underwear, coats & winter apparel, and more.

# 148

children served in 2021  
Holiday Workshop.

# 1070+

toys wrapped and given to  
children in this year's  
Holiday Workshop.

To The work shop I Really  
Appreciate everything you guys done  
Today for me and my family  
if it wasn't for you wonderful people  
don't know what I could of done  
for Christmas without working to even  
provide gifts for my 6 children  
it was a very big help and  
I can't wait to see the smiles  
on there faces Christmas Morning  
Thanks to All the staff and case workers  
Thanks John Also for having  
patients walking around while  
I pick gifts.

A single mom with four children that participated in this year's workshop wrote this letter to us. Her gratitude and kind words are a testament to the positive impact the workshop makes in the lives of those we serve.

## Community Impact



### 85+ Holiday Volunteers

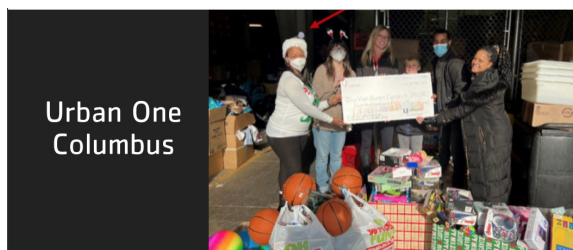
Did you know 340+ volunteer hours went into making the holidays special for the guests at Van Buren Center in 2021? From running the workshop to helping out in the kitchen for holiday meal service our volunteers did it all.

### \$15,000 in Holiday Giving

It is because of the incredible generosity we received this year from our community that the Holiday Workshop was able to serve so many families in need. We are forever grateful for your help and support.

### 30+ Holiday Community Partners

It is important for us to always be developing and strengthening existing and new community partnerships so that we are able to increase our ability to provide services that meet the needs of those we serve and give hope.



Urban One  
Columbus

## Community Partners

- Performance Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram Georgesville
- Arby's-Columbus, Toledo, & Lexington
- Friendship Missionary Baptist

Arby's  
Columbus,  
Toledo, &  
Lexington



Crazy Faith  
Ministries



Zardes Family



Performance  
Chrysler Jeep  
Dodge Ram  
Georgesville



Worthington  
Noon Lions  
Club



Capital Crossroads-SID



THANK YOU!



Alpha Kappa  
Alpha Sorority

- Church
- The Real Deal Santa, LLC.
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority-  
Alpha Sigma Omega Chapter
- Urban One Columbus
- BESA
- Columbus Gives Back
- Read to Succeed Foundation
- Coca-Cola Consolidated
- Professor John Kengla-  
Otterbein University
- Saucy Brew Works
- Jimmy Johns London  
Groveport- Joshua  
Zimmerman
- Laughlin Family
- YMCA Gahanna Branch
- The Columbus Foundation
- Creative Financial Staffing
- White Castle
- Wycliff Kitchen
- Franklin County Sheriffs  
Office
- Crew Supporters/ Crew Front  
Office/ Zardes Family
- Capital Crossroads SID
- Junior Library Guild
- Assistance League of Metro  
Columbus
- Crazy Faith Ministries
- Give Smart  
Foundation/Columbus  
Division of Fire
- Worthington Noon Lions Club

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