

FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOR, WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD.

Luke 2:11



CHRISTMAS

“JOY TO THE WORLD!”



INTRODUCTION:

Each December in the health care facility, excitement starts to build very early in the hearts and minds of the residents due to all the entertainment that is provided by the outside community. Since this group of silver haired people have no pretenses remaining in their lives, it allows them to live in the present; meaning they enjoy every precious moment during this festive season. Giving and receiving fellowship is absolutely their favorite past time in the whole world. Thus, when the community members arrive for a time of worshipping together, it thrills them beyond measure; especially if children are a part of the group. Wouldn't it be a treat if those visiting at Christmas would make it a habit to arrive at health care facilities throughout the year, too?

Activity Director Tim Trafford and Assistant Activity Director Melody Childers choose to color beyond the lines with their vision of the residents' Christmas celebration. They pause and think about each resident and write a list of special gifts that would please him/her at Christmas time. When observing their notes regarding each individual, it is amazing to observe how intimately they both know every resident; a fact that speaks loudly as to why they are such successful activity directors. It clearly points out how much these two people care about the people they serve so faithfully. Their passion in life happens to be the way they earn a living.

ACTIVITY: Annual Christmas party

Supplies Needed:

*****Christmas gifts for each individual selected ahead of time.***

*****Christmas bags, tags and tissue (The gifts are placed in a large Christmas bag with tissue on top. Since most residents struggle with the process of opening a gift, this serves as a wonderful solution. The cost for bags can be covered through the generous contribution of community groups.)***

*****Home School Orchestra/Chorus is their choice for entertainment. (Free of charge and wonderful) You may know of another group in your area that will work. If so, book well in advance.***

*****Costs of special party. Since there is an additional cost to provide extra special gifts, you will need to establish a budget (\$ per resident base on amount you have to spend) Obviously, it will be necessary to supplement your budget allowance as provided by the facility.***

*****Schedule in your volunteers for this festive season according to their desires and talents***

Ways to Raise Money

- 1) Have a Christmas Bazaar in November; a time when you set up tables in a large space and offer items for sale to community members, residents' family members, and staff. When word is passed well in advance of the impending bazaar, it is amazing how many free items you receive for the tables. (Quilts, knitted items, baked goods, crafts) Some kind individual/s will offer an expensive item that you can auction off for a higher price. Once you establish this as a way of raising extra funds for special gifts, it is shocking to see how many items pour in for the sale. These can be stored throughout the year for this special time.***

Directions:

Making your shopping list early allows you to find bargains. Also, it is wise to put together 4 extra Christmas presents (male and female) for new arrivals or human error. It is wise to organize your plan well in advance so volunteers are ready to assist your efforts throughout the season. Since all able bodied residents, family members, and entertainment will require extra space, draw a diagram. (Figure in additional chairs for guests.) Have a volunteer ready with the camera to provide wonderful memories for later that can be shown on the large screen TV.

LET THE FUN BEGIN!





The beautiful gifts are organized according to hall numbers in the locked activity room and are secretly awaiting Santa's arrival!



ANTICIPATION!

HOME SCHOOL ORCHESTRA ALL TUNED UP AND READY!



**SO MUCH FUN TO
SING ALONG!
COME ON GROUP.
LET'S LIFT UP OUR
VOICES!**

After singing together the beautiful carols of Christmas, hearts were full to overflowing with joy and the anticipation of Santa's arrival. Then being prompted by Tim, the group yelled out.....

HEY, SANTA!

As if by magic, look who is coming down the hallway! Yours truly in all his jolly splendor.



SQUEALS AND LAUGHTER ABOUND!

HO! HO! HO!





**WHAT CAN IT
BE?**

**DO YOU COME
POTTY
TRAINED?**



**One year's
supply of
overalls! Thank
you Santa!**

**DO YOU WANT ME TO GET A
SPEEDING TICKET, SANTA?**



OH, JOY!



**SO HAPPY TO
SEE OTHERS ARE
ENJOYING THEIR
CHRISTMAS!**



**MY
BFF!**



HELP ME, PLEASE!



AND...THE ELVES HEARD!



GIFTS OF LOVE



WHAT COULD THIS BE?



SANTA REMEMBERS EVERYONE!



*AN UNFORGETTABLE MAN! WONDERFUL
PERSON THAT HAD A HEART FULL OF
LOVE! INCREDIBLY SMART!
UNBELIEVABLY GENEROUS! ALWAYS PUT
OTHERS FIRST! SANTA, YOU'RE WITH A
PROUD RETIRED SECURITY GUARD FOR
THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS!*



*MINT CHOCOLATE CHIP
SMOOTHIE CAPPED OFF
THE CELEBRATION!*

YUM!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE & ALL!

