Cartwheels for Kids A clothing resource for foster children

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is Cartwheels for Kids?

A. Foster parents caring for foster children of any age can receive free gift certificates twice a year to shop at Gracefully Chic Boutique and Peace of Home through the Cartwheels for Kids program. Foster children under the age of 12 are eligible to receive a \$10 certificate; kids 12+ receive a \$15 certificate.

Q. Who can use the program?

A. Certified foster parents in good standing who have foster children in their care may use the program. Additionally, biological family given formal court-ordered custody of a relative's children may utilize the program.

Q. Who can't use the program?

A. Parents who have adopted children from foster care cannot use the program for their adopted kids. If adoptive parents have additional foster children in their home they may use the program for the foster children.

Q. When do I receive gift certificates?

A. Foster parents may request gift certificates twice a year for each foster child they care for. Once for fall and winter attire between September 1 and March 31 and once for spring and summer attire between April 1 and August 31.

Q. How do I get my gift certificates?

A. Foster parents should have their DSS or foster care agency case manager call or email Doreen Seltzer, store manager, to verify placement of children before each visit. Call Doreen at (518) 756-9091 ext 02 or leave a message. Email: GCB-POH@HopeFullLifeCenter.org.

Doreen will request the following information:

- 1. First and last name of case manager, his or her title and the agency he/she is affiliated with.
- 2. Case manager's telephone number.
- 3. The first and last name of the foster parents.
- 4. A telephone number for the foster parents.
- 5. Number of foster children currently placed in the home.
- 6. Age and gender of the foster children.

Foster parents should have photo ID and know the name and telephone number of the case manager who referred them when they visit the store. Gift certificates are kept in a secure location at the store and may be redeemed anytime Tues – Sat, 10-5.

Q. May I send a friend or family member to get the gift certificate?

A. Gift certificates never leave the store. If a foster parent is unable to redeem the certificate they may ask their case manager to assist them. Other family members and friends will not be able to redeem Cartwheels for Kids gift certificates.

Q. Do you always have kid's clothing in all sizes?

A. We rely on donations of gently used kid's clothing, shoes, toys and other items to stock our store. Selection varies on any given day and we cannot guarantee the availability of particular sizes. Our inventory changes quickly and if we don't have items you're seeking, please stop in regularly to see what's new.

Q. Who is sponsoring this program?

A. Hope Full Life Center and Justice for Orphans, two Ravena-based charities, sponsor this program.

Hope Full Life Center is the parent charity of Gracefully Chic Boutique and Peace of Home. In addition to our thrift stores we operate Helping Harvest, an income-qualified food assistance program, and Cross Culture Market, an international program that fights poverty by assisting with job creation. Learn more about Hope Full Life Center here.

Justice for Orphans encourages and equips Christians to defend the fatherless based on James 1:27. Learn more about Justice for Orphans <u>here</u>.

Q. Why was this program created?

A. Foster children often arrive at foster homes with little more than the clothes on their backs. While the county gives foster parents money to pay for clothing and other necessities it's never enough to supply everything children need. Hope Full Life Center and Justice for Orphans decided to create this program to support foster parents and the kids they care for.

Q. How can I support this program?

A. Please encourage your friends and family to support the foster care program by making donations of gently used kids' clothing, shoes, toys and books to Gracefully Chic Boutique and Peace of Home. Donations are accepted anytime during business hours: Tues – Sat, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The more clothing, shoes, books, toys and other "kid items" we have, the more selection foster parents and kids have to choose from.