



Commissioners
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For Immediate Release
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Commissioners Appeal to the Public Give to Foster Children this Holiday Season

(Hamilton OH, November 28, 2007) Butler County Commissioner Chuck Furmon issued an appeal to individuals and businesses in Butler County during today's Commission Meeting.

Restore faith and hope—help provide for foster children and their families this holiday season.

On any given day, more than 350 children are in foster care. "When we place these abused and neglected children in foster homes, we are responsible for their well being," said Furmon. "That well being extends beyond basic food, clothing and shelter. Without the support of individuals and local businesses, many of these children and needy families will have not have a holiday."

The commission is sending out a letter to all local businesses and asking residents of Butler County to support one of the holiday programs organized by Butler County Children Services.

There are four ways citizens and businesses can help:

- Adopt a Family
- Adopt a Foster Child
- Host a Giving Tree
- Purchase a holiday ornament

For the gift programs children services will provide the donor with a wish list and basic information, such as sex, age, size, etc. You and your family can enjoy filling the wish lists. The presents can be dropped off at the agency or Children Services can arrange for pick up.

Businesses, churches or other groups may choose to host a giving tree. Children Services will provide ornaments for an organization's holiday tree. Each ornament

represents a foster child or family in need. Employees can pick an ornament and supply a holiday gift for that child.

You may wish to purchase a holiday ornament. Designed by a local foster child and produced by Barker Ornaments, all proceeds from the sale of the ornaments go to Victims United, Children's Gift Fund. This fund provides holiday presents and programs for Butler County Foster Children.

"Every foster child should have a least one gift during the holidays," said Commissioner Dixon, supported by Commissioner Jolivette.

For more information on supporting foster children and needy families at the holidays, call Jennifer Hulett at 513-785-6214 or e-mail her at hulettj@odjfs.state.oh.us.