

ADOPT-A-FAMILY HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Myles-A-Part is pleased to partner during the Holidays with single parents in the Atlanta metro area who are raising children with Autism. Autism is a difficult condition to live with even in two-parent homes. The emotional and financial strain with only one parent shouldering the load can be overwhelming.

This program brings people from the community – families, small groups, groups of friends, individuals, etc... - alongside these special families at Christmas as sponsors.

The program is simple.

- Each sponsor/sponsoring group is paired with a Single Parent family.
- Each family completes a wish list of items they would like for Christmas. (Sponsors should not feel obligated to get everything on the list. Families typically list several things to provide options.)
- Sponsor contacts Single Parent to see which of the items are priority/would be preferred. Or even to see if they'd just prefer gift cards for each child and to do the shopping themselves. It is up to the sponsor and the family to determine what is best in that particular situation.
- After arrangements are made, sponsor and family coordinate getting items to the family before Christmas Day. You can also discuss whether the gifts will be wrapped by the sponsors, or if the parents want to do that themselves.

Each sponsor can feel free to determine how much or how little they'd like to get involved or spend, but we recommend budgeting approximately \$50-\$100 per family member. That is not set in stone, but is just a guideline to help manage the expectations of all involved.

Please contact <u>tinadula@mylesapart.org</u> with questions, or to confirm participation in the program.