

Thank you for your interest in Shielded Hearts' Round Ups!

While a police officer's job is to serve and protect, they are also good will ambassadors to the community and often see children in less than ideal situations. To help build relationships between Police Officers and the community, Shielded Hearts, a local group of women in long-term committed relationships with men in law enforcement, the Milwaukee Police Department and the Child Protection Center are collecting new and gently used stuffed animals, new toys and new socks and sweaters for children in need this holiday season. The announcement will be made at a press conference on Nov. 19.

With your help, we hope to collect as many items as possible to bring a little warmth and a smile to children in the greater Milwaukee area this holiday season. There are three drives that you can participate in:

- **New Toy Round Up:** Collect new toys for children as young as infants into their teen years. Ideas include balls, board games, coloring books, dolls, cars/trucks, books, etc.
- **New Socks & Sweaters Round Up:** New socks and sweaters for children of all ages. Items must be new with tags.
- **Teddy Bear Round Up:** Not just limited to teddies, collected new or gently used stuffed animals to bring a smile to children in a scary situation.

Feel free to collect for one drive, or all three! All items collected will be distributed by the Milwaukee Police Department's Sensitive Crimes and Community Liaison Officers, Police Departments in the greater Milwaukee area, as well as through the Child Protection Center of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and will be given to children in frightening situations including car accidents, domestic violence situations, and street crimes. New socks and sweaters will be specifically designated for children in foster care.

With such wonderful support last year we collected over 5,000 stuffed animals. This year we hope to be able to connect with even more organizations and businesses and expand our efforts to also collect new toys, socks and sweaters.

I have attached a small questionnaire for your organization to complete or the form online found at: [www.Roundup.ShieldedHearts.com](http://www.Roundup.ShieldedHearts.com) . It's simple and will take no more than a few minutes to complete. It can be emailed back to myself at [info@shieldedhearts.com](mailto:info@shieldedhearts.com). In addition, I've compiled a simple frequently asked questions document to help prepare you for your drive.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or need further details, feel free to email me at [info@ShieldedHearts.com](mailto:info@ShieldedHearts.com) or call 414-369-2677.

I look forward to working together on this initiative,  
Catherin Draeger  
Executive Director  
Shielded Hearts

## **Shielded Hearts – Round Up Registration Form**

(<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dEkzcmsxN01xU25JcEw0OXhnbVU3c0E6MQ>)

Organization Name:

Contact Name:

Contact Phone:

Contact Email:

Which drive would your organization like to participate in?

- **New Toy Round Up**
- **New Socks & Sweaters Round Up**
- **Teddy Bear Round Up**
- **Combination (please indicate):**

How many printed posters do you need? (We can also email you an electronic copy.)

How many collection boxes would you like?

Would you like your organization information listed on our website?

Would you be willing to help cover costs (see information below)?

Is your organization willing to clean the stuffed animals (see the information below)?

Would be able to bring the donations to a location in North West Milwaukee? If Not, we will arrange a pick up.

### **Preparing the Stuffed Animals:**

Stuffed Animals are donated in a variety of conditions so we want our law enforcement agencies and social service agencies to hand out the very best stuffed animals to the children in need. Once stuffed animals are collected, if you would consider sorting through the stuffed animals in steps 1-3:

1. Sort through the stuffed animals and separate the obvious new animals and gently used. Unfortunately we cannot take those that need a little bit more attention. We absolutely do not distribute bears with tears, stains, or smells.
2. For those items that are obviously new with tags still attached there is no action needed.
3. For those gently used items, throw them in the dryer for 10 minutes on air dry.

### **Collecting Socks & Sweaters:**

The Children's Protect Center is only allowed to give new clothing out to children that they serve. It is very important to collect only new socks and new sweaters.

1. New socks should be left in the original package, or tags kept on, do not separate.
2. New sweaters must have original tag still attached.

### **Collecting New Toys:**

Toys should be new and in original packaging. (Only new toys can be distributed to the children that are served at the Children's Protective Center.)

Ideas include: Nerf Toys, Footballs, Basketballs, Board Games, Coloring Books, Stickers, Barbie's, Yo Yo's, Match Box Cars, Jump Ropes, Kids and Young Adult Books, Your Imagination is the Limit!

### **Monetary Donations:**

We sometimes hear from people that they don't have time to drop off an item to donate but would enjoy helping out in another capacity. Cash donations can be designated to be used specifically for Shielded Hearts Round Ups. There is a PayPal link on our website or checks can be made payable to Shielded Hearts with "Round-Up" in the memo line. Checks can be sent to: Shielded Hearts, Inc., PO Box 26813, Milwaukee, WI 53226. Shielded Hearts, Inc. has filed to become an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All donations will be tax-deductible, to the extent of the law, retroactive to August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, contingent on final approval from the IRS.

We do not expect that organizations pay for the materials, but many often ask if their organization can contribute to the cost of the drive. We do not want money to be a hindrance in an organization's ability or willingness to participate. Below we have listed the costs for our Round-Ups.

1. Each Collection box is \$10.00.
2. 100 full-color printed posters \$25.00.
3. Plastic bags for officers to keep stuffed animals clean in their squad cars costs \$25.00 for 100 bags.
4. Communication with community groups and police departments costs \$100.00