



Helpful Hints for Participating Church Teams

The following list represents some of the ideas we have gathered from participating Angel Tree churches over the years. Please be sure to email us at angeltree@prisonfellowship.ca with ideas that have worked for your church so we can add them to this list:

- **Plan an 'Angel Tree Sunday' Launch Date:** Announce details, show the Angel Tree video, hand out the church bulletin insert, and set up a 'sign up' table.
- **Use the Supplied Spreadsheet for Church Members to Sign Up:** This is included in your Sponsor Resources and is a helpful tool for you to keep track of how many kids are being sponsored, who's sponsoring them, and their contact information for following up.
- **Angel Tree Christmas Trees:** Consider purchasing angel decorations (Amazon has some inexpensive wooden ones) to decorate a small Christmas tree. You can write a child's age, gender, & gift idea on the back.
- **Host a Social Event:** Raise money for Angel Tree gifts and/or shipping costs by hosting a fun activity. We have participated in a church's square dance fundraiser and pie auction in the past!
- **Involve Youth:** Involve youth groups and Sunday School kids in the program - this is a great way to teach young people about families in their community that are impacted by crime and incarceration. (And we all know that kids love to shop for toys!)
- **Create a Dedicated 'Call Team':** This team can reach out to caregivers to confirm the information when you receive your Angel Tree applications. (There are bound to be people in your church who love talking on the phone!)
- **Divide Your Team Up by Roles:** Assign shopper, wrapper and driver teams so that everyone has a role they are comfortable in. Fundraise for the gift amounts so that shoppers are not out of pocket.
- **A Gift Wrapping Party:** Schedule a wrapping party as a social event for the church for a great cause.
- **Save Shipping Costs With Pre-Paid Boxes:** If your church is sponsoring remote children, you can purchase pre-paid boxes from Canada Post to save shipping costs.
- **Gifts for Remote Children Can be Purchased, Wrapped, and Shipped via Amazon.** Prime members receive free shipping to many locations in Canada.