

TOOLKIT FOR HOSTING YOUR LOCAL

Wo Otúh'an Wi

(Moon of Giving Away Presents)

Toy Drive





for helping us demonstrate Lakota values of generosity and care in our community.

Since 1988, the nonprofit Cheyenne River Youth Project has been dedicated to providing Lakota youth with access to more vibrant future through culturally relevant programs and activities. One of those programs is the annual Wo Otúh'an Wi Toy Drive.

Our toy drive is about so much more than gifts. It's about the hope and promise of wishes fulfilled for more than 1,000 children and their families. It acknowledges the significance of the winter solstice for our people, and it is grounded in our Lakota values. And, it's a vital part of living Wólakĥota, our people's sacred way of life.

Thank you for hosting a toy drive for our children in your community. Here are the tools and information you need to get started. We are deeply grateful to you for expressing your generosity and care in this way — and for showing our children they are important, precious, and so loved.

Again, Philámayaye. Thank You.

In this toolkit, you'll find:

- 1. How to Host a Toy Drive
- 2. Quick Links
- **3** FAQ and Support
- 4 Sample Email Text and Social Media Tools
- 5 Promotional Flyer

Download a standalone flyer PDF at lakotayouth.org/toydrive-2025-flyer



How to Host a Toy Drive

1. Sign up!

Email Laure Lachaud at **toydrive.cryp@gmail.com** to let us know you're hosting a toy drive. We'd love to give you a shout-out on social media and keep in touch if you have questions.

2. Gather your team.

Involve your whole network — friends, neighbors, family, work colleagues, school clubs, religious communities and more! This is great activity for kids and teens looking to give back.

3 Set your goals.

How many childrens' wish lists will your group adopt? Will some people team up on one list? Will some give single gifts from our Amazon Wish List (bit.ly/cryp-wishlist-2025) or gift cards instead?

4. Adopt one or more children's wish lists.

Visit <u>lakotayouth.org/toy-drive-wishes</u> to adopt childrens' wish lists. If a list is too much for someone to afford, we also welcome individual gifts and donations of wrapping supplies ordered from our Amazon Wish list at <u>bit.ly/cryp-wishlist-2025</u>.

5. Promote and make it fun!

Spread the word in person and via email and social media. Post flyers in your community and email them to friends and family. Consider throwing a party where each guest brings gifts from the wish lists, or hosting a gift-gathering day at your workplace.

6. Shop for the kids and send unwrapped gifts to CRYP.

Please make sure gifts are unwrapped and shipped in time to arrive by **December 12, 2025** to **Cheyenne River Youth Project**, 702 4th Street / P.O. Box 410, Eagle Butte, SD 57625.

7 Share your success!

Use social media, email, etc. to thank your participants and highlight how many kids you helped! Email Laure Lachaud at **toydrive.cryp@gmail.com** with updates and questions. We'd love to receive photos, notes and testimonials about your group's experience!

Quick Links

Sign up to host a toy drive

lakotayouth.org/ host-toy-drive



Adopt a child's holiday wish list

lakotayouth.org/ toy-drive-wishes



Amazon Wish List

to donate individual gifts, gift cards and/or gift wrapping supplies

bit.ly/cryp-wishlist-2025



Donate cash

Give online or mail a check to the address below

lakotayouth.org/give



Download a promotional flyer

Print, email and share this flyer with your community

lakotayouth.org/ toydrive-2025-flyer



Receive tax acknowledgment

when you send gifts by completing this online form

lakotayouth.org/give/in-kind-donations



FAQ and Support

Who is the Cheyenne River Youth Project (CRYP)?

Founded in 1988, the Cheyenne River Youth Project is a grassroots, Native- and woman-led nonprofit organization dedicated to providing Lakota youth with access to a vibrant and more secure future. Learn more at **lakotayouth.org**

What is the Wo Otúh'an Wi Toy Drive?

We're collecting unwrapped holiday gifts for Lakota children and teens living on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota..

When should gifts be delivered to CRYP?

We need all gifts in-hand by **December 12, 2025** to sort, wrap and distribute them. Earlier is better when possible! If your shipment is delayed and may not make it in time, please contact us at **toydrive.cryp@gmail.com** to discuss options.

Where should gifts be delivered?

If sending via UPS or FedEx: If sending via U.S. Postal Service:

Cheyenne River Youth Project Cheyenne River Youth Project

702 4th Street P.O. Box 410

Eagle Butte, SD 57625 Eagle Butte, SD 57625

What if I can't fulfill a child's entire wish list?

We understand! We try to aim for 3-4 gifts per child. If you can only do 1 or 2 gifts on a particular wish list, that's ok! You can also donate a-la-carte gifts and gift cards via our Amazon Wish List at **bit.ly/cryp-wishlist-2025**. We use these "frequently requested items" and gift cards to fill in any gaps and make sure every child receives 3-4 gifts total.

Are gifts tax-deductible?

Yes. For cash donations, you'll automatically receive a receipt for tax purposes. For toys and other tangible gifts, please submit this <u>in-kind donation form</u> to record your gift and we'll send a donation receipt.

What if I have questions or need help?

We're here for you! Please email us at toydrive.cryp@gmail.com for assistance.

Sample toy drive email text

Hi <Recipient's Name>,

The <u>Cheyenne River Youth Project's</u> annual Wo Otúh'an Wi (Moon of Giving Away Presents) Toy Drive is once again in full swing for the winter holiday season.

Every year, friends from across the country send gifts to bring holiday joy to over 1,000 underserved Lakota children in 20 communities across the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation.

Would you please join us and adopt a child's wish list, send an individual gift or make a cash contribution to support the CRYP toy drive?

This toy drive is about so much more than gifts. It's about the hope and promise of wishes fulfilled. It's about living Wólakĥota, a sacred way of life deeply grounded in Lakota values. Most of all, it shows our children that they are important, precious and so loved.

Please have a look at the attached flyer or visit lakotayouth.org/toy-drive for more information about how you can help.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

<Your Name>

Sample social media #toydrivecryp

TEXT:

When you adopt a child's wish list during this year's Wo Otúh'an Wi Toy Drive, you're doing more than sending gifts. You're part of a nationwide movement that lifts up an entire community — and showing its children that they are important, precious and so loved. Join us! #toydrivecryp #liftuplakotayouth

LINK:

lakotayouth.org/toy-drive

IMAGE:

Click here to download the JPG image file.



THE CHEYENNE RIVER YOUTH PROJECT

Wo Otúh'an Wi

(Moon of Giving Away Presents)

Toy Drive

Please help us bring winter holiday joy and generosity to over 1,000 children in 20 communities across the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation.





Visit lakotayouth.org/toy-drive to:

- Adopt a child's winter solstice gift wish list
- Send gifts from our Amazon Wish List
- Host a toy drive in your community
- Donate gift wrapping supplies
- Support the toy drive with cash donations
- Volunteer to wrap gifts on-site at CRYP

... and more!



Please send new, unwrapped gifts in time to arrive on or before

December 12, 2025 to:

Cheyenne River Youth Project 702 4th Street / P.O. Box 410 Eagle Butte, SD 57625 CRYP's annual toy drive is about so much more than gifts. It's about the hope and promise of wishes fulfilled, and the significance of the winter solstice for our people. It's grounded in our Lakota values as a vital part of living Wólakĥota, our people's sacred way of life.

Philámayaye! Thank you!

HELP US CREATE WINTER HOLIDAY JOY

WITH THE CHEYENNE RIVER YOUTH PROJECT

Wo Otuhan W (Moon of Giving Away Presents) Toy Drive

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