

## **Inspirica to Collect Toys for Local Children in Need**

STAMFORD — Inspirica is currently hosting its annual Holiday Gift Collection to provide toys to children in need throughout Fairfield County.

Established in 1989, the Holiday Gift Collection began under the name “Bread & Roses” in response to the plight of families living with HIV/AIDS in Bridgeport. During its first year, 250 gifts were provided to 30 families.

Today, Inspirica’s Holiday Gift Collection is one of the largest regional programs to gather, organize, and deliver approximately 5,000 personalized, wrapped gifts to 2,500 children in Fairfield County affected by homelessness, HIV/AIDS, and/or poverty.

Inspirica is one of the largest providers of services to the homeless in Connecticut and the largest in lower Fairfield County. In addition to providing housing to roughly 250 homeless people each night, they provide services such as employment search assistance and children’s services.

Inspirica collects toys on behalf of 27 local agencies in Stamford, Bridgeport, Darien, Danbury, Norwalk, and Stratford.

To sponsor a child, make a contribution, donate a toy or organize a collection, call (203) 388-0103 or email [holidayhelper@inspiricact.org](mailto:holidayhelper@inspiricact.org).

Inspirica will be collecting gifts until Friday, Dec. 13. Two gift-wrapping parties will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14 at Inspirica from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Inspirica is located at 141 Franklin St., Stamford.

This year’s sponsors are The Hour Publishing Co., First County Bank, Two Men and a Truck, Purdue Pharma, Stamford Marriott, and Friends of Children.

To view the article online, please visit: <http://www.thehour.com/stamford/article/Inspirica-to-collect-toys-for-local-children-in-8237580.php>