

Reverse Advent Calendar

Reminding 'kids of all ages' that giving is more rewarding than receiving.

Starting on Dec. 1, add something to the box/basket every day. When the "calendar" is full (Dec.24), it shall be donated to the organization/family/person of your choice.

Note: could be done for Christmas in Oct. or whenever there is a need.

In terms of the countdown, it's fun to put something in the box every day, and think of what someone might enjoy, find useful or need. Food banks can always use healthy and practical donations but remember it's fun to receive some chocolate Santas or sweet treats along with other staples. Baby-care items, personal-care items and feminine hygiene products are also in high demand, as are pet-supplies.

Other recipients may include:

- homeless shelter or a known homeless camp/person in your area
- domestic violence shelter
- half-way house
- SPCA/pet rescue organization
- school, library, daycare center or retirement community
- hospital or cancer center
- veteran's organization
- active military personnel
- shut-in members or an elderly person in the community
- Sunshine Child or Grandparent/special Mooseheart or Moosehaven resident
- a family in need
- college student
- someone special similar to a "Secret Santa" gift.

The possibilities are endless. You can gather your gifts to meet the needs of your recipient. **No matter what or to whom you gift, your heart will be filled with joy!**

Encourage your members to get involved – decorate 2 wine boxes with festive paper and leave in the Lodge home for daily collections. (The bottle separators make 24 cubbies; one for each day.) Or, stop by the local wine/liquor supplier to pick-up boxes for everyone to take – plan a fun day/evening to decorate the boxes and share ideas and fellowship, or get a local scouting group involved to help.

No sectioned boxes available? That's ok – any box or basket will do just fine. The purpose is the joy of giving, not how creative your collection box is decorated.

