Frequently Asked Questions about STOCKINGS

Who receives the stockings? Stockings are given to single adults and elders who are living in our community including YWCA affordable housing, senior housing and at Nourishing the North Shore's VEGOUT Mobile Market stops.

Are the stockings for men and women? Stockings are for both men and women. Please make sure that your stockings are filled with gender-neutral items.

Do these seniors also get other gifts from your program? No, and for some this is all they receive for the holiday. Some elves will use a gift bag instead of a stocking and include some small gift items with their stocking.

What usually goes in a stocking? When filling your stockings think about wishes and needs. So elves usually put in things like shampoo, soaps, razors, combs, toothbrush, tooth paste, candy, gift cards, mittens, hats, fun or regular socks, crossword or sudoku books, candy canes, etc. (please no alcohol or scratch tickets). If you choose to include a gift card, please place in an envelope at the top of the bag.

Do I wrap the gifts in the stocking? You can do whatever you usually do for your family. Almost all of the stocking receivers live alone so there will be no conflict with differences between one stocking and another.

What if I want to do more for the program? You can also donate gift cards to our holiday program that we can use to fulfil family wishes. In addition, we have some single gifts that are part of the wish lists from bigger families such as bikes, tablets for educational needs and other medium to large ticket items that we will need donors for.

Where do I drop off my stocking? All stockings will need to be dropped off to Newburyport Youth Services, 40 Milk Street, Newburyport. Due to COVID precautions, specific dates and times for drop-off will be provided.

What extra precautions is NYS/YWCA taking this year due to COVID-19? Safety is our top priority. Elves will be asked to sign-up for a drop-off time so that we can limit the amount of people coming at the same time. Elves will be required to wear a mask while dropping off and must maintain 6 foot social distancing at all times. Drop-off will be outside, at the door. All volunteers and staff will be masked and screened prior to helping.