

August, 2018

Dear Parent,

I hope that this finds you well and enjoying the summer! I am writing to you because you have been a Christmas is for Kids recipient at least once since 2004 and we believe that you still have a child that is still within our age parameters. As you know, in order to be helped again in 2018, you are required to attend at least four classes. We have tried to choose classes with a variety of topics. We hope that you will find a class that will make an immediate and positive impact for you and your children.

There are 4 ways to complete the class requirements:

1. Take classes on-line or in a classroom:

- **On-line classes through Attleboro and North Attleboro libraries.** Please see the Council for Children's website: www.councilforchildren.org for a listing of accepted classes. Not all classes through the libraries' universal class program are accepted for our program.
- **Come to classes as listed on the enclosed schedule.** We are focusing this year on the Opioid epidemic and have specifically put together a series of classes to help families deal with this crisis. **The first class is September 10th and needs an RSVP.** If you do not have access to the internet and want to go, please call our office so we can get you on the list. 508.226.2336
- **Please be sure to sign in at every class. This is the only way to be sure you receive credit.**

2. **Finish your GED in 2018:** We want to encourage all parents who have not completed at least a high school education to get their GED finished. Therefore, we will accept a GED completed in 2017 as having fulfilled all of the class requirements for the year.

3. **Go to college:** If you have successfully completed a college level class in the spring or summer semester, this will fulfill your class requirement.

4. **Volunteer hours.** The 8-hr class requirements can be substituted for 20 hours of volunteer work at any recognized non-profit (church, school or 501c3) as long as you provide documentation from the organization on their letterhead which includes dates, times, a signature and phone number.

A few reminders:

- Council for Children-sponsored classes will be held at **Bristol Community College** in Attleboro. Please review the attached information carefully so that you go to the right place for each class.
- Children cannot be accommodated at any of the classes.
- If you are more than 10 minutes late to any class, you will not be given credit for the class.
- Please update us if you move or change email addresses so we have your correct contact information in case there are changes to the program that needs to be communicated to you.
- **Applications will be given out at the October 3rd class.** Applications must be done and back to us by Nov 5th for **returning** parents. The Oct 3rd class will NOT count toward credit.
- **No applications will be accepted after December 1.** All applications and supporting documentation must be received and completed by December 1st in order to be considered for the program.

Please don't wait until October and then try to get the classes done. The last date that we will accept classes will be November 17th. No class credit will be given after that date. If you have extenuating circumstances around getting to class, please let us know ASAP so that we can talk about it, but I believe that having on-line access to classes should eliminate most requests to make exceptions.

Finally, if you have an updated e-mail address, please send a note to info@councilforchildren.org with your name so we can include you on e-mail updates.

All the best,

Kelly Fox

Christmas is for Kids Chairperson