

YOUTH & FAMILY Project Ideas

Kids in Crisis is Connecticut's only facility for children newborn to age 17, and provides a 24-hour hotline, **FREE** shelter, counseling, medical care and educational support for children. There are lots of ways to help Kids in Crisis - on your own or with a group of friends. Here are some ways **YOU** can help:

Dinner Donation – Make a complete dinner for our residents (13 – 15 people) and drop off at the shelter. This is a great individual, family or group activity and menu ideas are happily provided!

“Stuff A Duffle” – Pack a duffle bag or backpack with some essential overnight supplies such as toiletries, socks, underwear, & pajamas (new) for kids 0 – 17 years, male or female. (Remember to ask KIC for a full list of needs!)

Kids in Crisis Collections – Consider collecting new or gently used large and extra-large duffle bags; new undergarments (socks, undershirts, underwear) or traditional packaged foods like: cereal, pancake mix, macaroni & cheese (boxed), individually packaged snacks (goldfish, cereal bars, granola bars), bottled juices and canned soups.

Create a “Party in a Box” – Fill a box or bag with party “fixings” – cake mix, frosting, candles, wrapping paper, paper plates and napkins, etc. - everything needed to make a birthday or farewell party special!

Create a “Bakery in a Box” – Provide our shelter residents with everything they need to make your favorite baked treat (or dinner!) Then include a complete recipe and shelf-stable fixings (noting any items that are not in the box).

Share the Love Basket – Collect needed items for shelter residents, put them in a pretty basket, then use them as a center piece, bima basket, or other display on your special day! (Please contact KIC for our most current needs)

Volunteer for Agency Events

- Navigators Stamford KIC IT Triathlons/5k/10k benefitting Kids in Crisis <https://www.kicitriathlon.com>
 - Kids Tri Saturday, June 11, 2016. Adult Tri/5k/10k Sunday, June 12, 2016
- Child Abuse Awareness Month Activity – Sunday, April 3, 2016 12:45 pm – 2 pm

Kids Helping Kids – Make a donation to Kids in Crisis in lieu of goody bags at your birthday party or bar/bat mitzvah. For each \$5 donation, you will receive a card to give your guests to let them know about the donation.

Create a FirstGiving Page – Visit <http://www.firstgiving.com/2206> to fundraise for the Agency.

Sponsor a Holiday Wish – Kids in Crisis, fulfills holiday needs for shelter residents and families we work with in the community. Wishes include items like a new winter coat, boots, pjs and a fun wish!

Join the Youth Corps (Teen volunteer group) - Help further the Kids in Crisis mission by raising awareness via community events & advocacy efforts, hosting food, clothing & holiday drives, occasionally planning activities for our youngest residents & more! The Youth Corps meets monthly (October thru May) at Kids in Crisis.

To arrange any of these activities or for more information, visit www.kidsin crisis.org or contact Kristen Tomasiewicz at ktomasiewicz@kidsin crisis.org (email preferred) or 203-622-6556.

ADULT Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are vital to fulfilling our mission. See how you can get involved!

SafeTalk Volunteers - Facilitate or assist program facilitators with simple role-plays, during SafeTalk workshops – KIC’s anti-bullying, anti-violence prevention program for elementary school students. Most presentations are given during school hours. An interview, two-day training session and background checks are required.

In-House Volunteers - In-house volunteers provide the extra attention and positive role-models that are crucial to the healing of children and teens in our temporary emergency shelters - typically on a weekly basis, after 4 pm, weekdays or on weekends. An interview, one-day training and background checks are required.

Dinner Donations - Prepare a homemade meal for our residents (13 – 15 people), including a protein, veggies and starch and drop off at the shelter. This is a great individual, family or group activity. Menu ideas happily provided!

Kids at Heart (for Young Professionals)- Kids at Heart volunteers help to further the Kids in Crisis mission by volunteering with shelter residents, at Agency events and more!

Event Committees - Kids in Crisis hosts several fundraising events that raise crucial funds to support the programs and services offered by Kids in Crisis. Consider joining an event committee.

Volunteer for the Navigators Stamford KIC IT Triathlon/5k/10k Weekend (<https://www.kicitriathlon.com>)

- Volunteer or Race!
- Kids Tri Saturday, June 11, 2016. Adult Tri/5k/10k Sunday, June 12, 2016

GROUP Project Ideas (for adults)

Activities with residents (smaller groups of volunteers best for these):

- Treat the kids to a fun and enriching activity on or off-campus!
- Ideas range from cooking dinner to taking the kids bowling and everything in between!

Projects you can do in the off-site:

- Host a Collection –Depending on our current needs, this could include toiletries, towels, school supplies, shelf-stable food, new clothing, gently used duffle bags, holiday gifts and more!
- Hold a fundraiser for the Agency
- Cook dinner, dessert or any special treat (for 13 – 15 people) & drop it off for our shelter residents

Holiday Needs - for shelter residents and children/families we work with in the community.

- Sponsor Holiday Dinner for one of both of the shelters (approx. 15 people, per shelter)
- Sponsor a Child’s Holiday Wish
- Organize a corporate or community gift drive (wish lists can be provided!)

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