

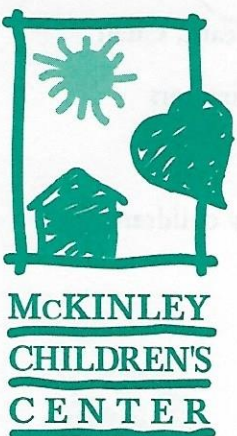


Dear Friends,

This holiday season, more than 160 emotionally and physically abused young people in the care of McKinley Children's Center will look for the spirit of Christmas. But for these kids, who have known only pain, sadness and loneliness during the holidays and throughout the year, it may be difficult to find.

These unfortunate youngsters have never known the traditional security and comfort of family and friends at the holidays. For them, there are

no festive parties, no decorated trees and no brightly wrapped presents. While other children peek from beneath the bedcovers hoping to catch a glimpse of Santa, the children of physically abusive parents hide and quake beneath the covers, hoping they will escape unjustified punishment. The children of drug-addicted parents slip into their cold beds, their tummies growling. They wonder when mommy or daddy will come home and when there will be food on the table. There are no visions of sugarplums for these children. When they do dream, their dreams are more like nightmares. There is only a hurtful day-to-day existence. Christmas is no different from any other day of the year. Is it any wonder that there is no wonder for these children at Christmas?



**McKINLEY
CHILDREN'S
CENTER**

**McKinley Children's Center
762 W. Cypress Street
San Dimas, CA 91773-3599**

Abandoned and traumatized children get the message early in life they are worthless and of no value to anyone. What a terrible waste of youth and innocence.

At McKinley Children's Center these children can begin to rebuild their damaged self-esteem in a positive, responsive environment. Here, they have a chance to experience the true spirit of Christmas and all the wonders of the season. For the first time, Christmas can come true.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

— Sir Winston Churchill

Your gift of \$35, \$60, \$80, \$160 or more can help mend young lives. Your donation will go directly toward the purchase of toys, games, clothing, tree decorations and a holiday feast and party like none other.

We need your help to make this Christmas a life-changing experience for our kids. Help make Christmas at McKinley a reality for all of the children! Your gift in any amount will make the holidays brighter and happier.

Sincerely,



E. Carl Sarjeant, Chair

Board of Directors

P.S. Your show of Christmas spirit is requested! When you contribute to the good of McKinley children, you make a better life for yourself many times over.