



**C**hristmas Magic is a not for profit organization which began in 1990 to provide holiday generosity and spirit to those less fortunate. What started originally back in 1985 as a small, private gesture of a local attorney from Port Jefferson, has evolved into a highly spirited program involving the generosity of men, women & children from all over Long Island.

*“How does it work?”*

Every year, Christmas Magic has been in contact with over twenty (20) different local not-for-profit agencies that specialize in sheltering and assisting displaced and/or homeless children and their families.

We simply ask that they provide us with letters from the children to Santa (or, if too young, have someone write for them) giving us an idea about their hopes and wishes and even sometimes a brief description of their background.

Next, enter our volunteers, who come to us in droves, scoop up the children’s wish letters, and head for the wholesale clubs, malls, department stores and even their computers where they purchase the items for each child as requested.

Try to imagine the face of an eight (8) year old homeless girl as she unwraps the exact Barbie that she asked for in a letter she wrote to Santa. In many cases, her mother would have had to tell her that Santa was not coming this year. *“How did you know Santa?”* - or - *“This is exactly what I wanted”* - or to simply see the silent tears of joy from the eyes of a teen who only asked for a radio, is what Christmas Magic is all about. Some of the parents are even more overwhelmed than the children. They see people they have never met helping their children and their families. It is the knowledge that you can make a difference in these lives that keeps our volunteers coming back, year after year.

For the past fifteen (15) years, *Christmas Magic* has been funded solely by private donations. We have relied upon “word of mouth” spreading throughout the local

business community and small collections have been gathered by neighbors, family and friends in a very casual and informal manner. With minimal overhead, and an all volunteer staff, we are able to use all of the funds collected towards gifts, with the exception of some supplies and postage used for our mailers.

While we have been somewhat successful with our fundraising in the past, every year we find that the growing need in our area far surpasses our small operation. We have been fortunate enough, in past years, to annually recruit our team of “elf power,” however, every year our program reaches out to more and more people and our financial need always seems to outweigh our collected funds.

Our little program manages to sprinkle *Magic* into the lives of about four thousand (4,000) of Long Island’s less fortunate children living in homeless shelters, temporary foster care, Child Protective Services, sober houses, teen mother homes, and domestic violence safehouses every year and the numbers are still growing.

Generosity is an amazing thing and, especially around the holidays, can be as contagious as a smile.

What started as a one man operation is now a seasonal event that all involved with our program look forward to. However, our goal each year is to bring the



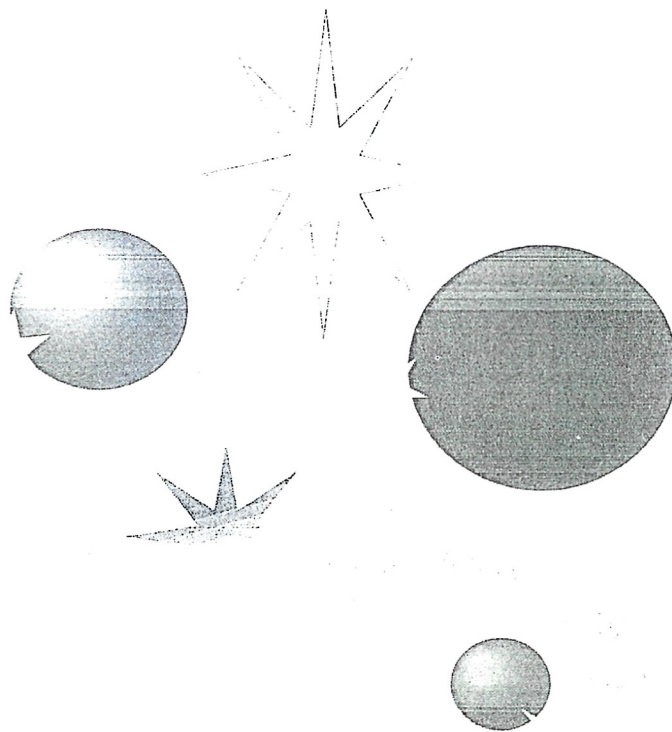
heartfelt spirit of giving to Long Island all year long, not just around the holidays. At *Christmas Magic*, we are striving to extend the holiday season so that it never really ends.

*What about the rest of the year?*

In the past, we have been able to equip a new day care center for single moms, build playgrounds, give a car to a family of eight in dire need and buy eyeglasses for aspiring students who could not afford them. With your consideration and support, our wish list includes being able to put our "band of elves" to work on a year round basis in order to provide services and generosity to the underprivileged throughout the calendar year.

*"What can we do to help?"*

One great aspect of our organization is the simple criteria of our volunteers. All someone needs to help is a good heart, some good intentions and the energy to put those things to work. Besides the giving of monetary donations, our volunteers have assisted our program by shopping, wrapping, stacking, bagging, labeling, assembling bikes & toys, coordinating wish lists and letters, loading, delivering, singing, baking, dancing, serving food, taking pictures, decorating, cooking, writing, making phone calls, gluing glitter on hats and stockings, making copies, stuffing envelopes, and so much more. You can form your own "band of elves" with friends, neighbors, family, co-workers and anyone else you think would like to help.



400 Townline Road  
Hauppauge, NY 11788  
(631) 265-7200  
Fax: (631) 265-7578