



Union Mills Community Christmas 2025



The annual Union Mills Community Christmas program continues to run much the same from year to year because we've found a model that truly works. Our goal is simple, but a little different from many Christmas assistance programs. Throughout the year we shop sales, collect donations, and organize gifts so that each December we can transform our space into a free Christmas store.

Our store is arranged with tables full of gifts for children of every age—from babies and toddlers all the way through teenagers. Along with toys and gifts, we also provide stockings stuffers, socks, underwear, pajamas, and other necessities to help make Christmas a little brighter for families who need a hand. Families schedule private shopping appointments where they are welcomed by members of the Union Mills Community Closet board and are able to shop for their children in a respectful, anonymous environment. As always, we also provide wrapping supplies and assistance for anyone who would like help preparing their gifts before taking them home.



Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, 2025 became our largest Community Christmas project to date. We were honored to serve 448 children from 137 families, ensuring that hundreds of children woke up to gifts under the Christmas tree.



In just four years, this project has grown from serving 110 children in its first Christmas season to 448 children in 2025—a testament to what can happen when a community comes together to care for its neighbors.

Every one of those numbers represents a child who is deeply loved by someone. We were privileged to walk alongside parents, grandparents, foster families, relatives, and caregivers as they selected gifts that would bring joy to the children in their care. It is always one of our favorite parts of the season to watch someone find "just the right gift."



As remarkable as these numbers are, they only tell part of the story. This project exists because of a community that continues to give generously. Throughout the year people donated toys, clothing, wrapping supplies, stocking stuffers, and financial gifts. Volunteers gave countless hours organizing, shopping, sorting, wrapping, and preparing the store. Every act of kindness, whether large or small, helped make Christmas possible for another family.



As we close another Christmas season, we are filled with gratitude for everyone who has helped make this mission possible. Together, we've now had the privilege of serving well over one thousand children since this project began, and we are excited to see what the future holds.

