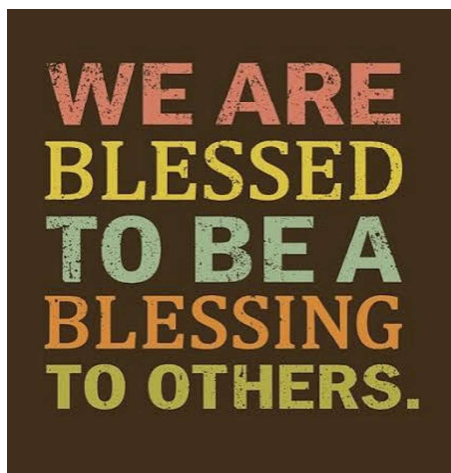


Like



**Jamie's Smiles needs your help to make a difference
in children's lives again this holiday season!**



Dear Friends:

We are just a hop, skip, and a jump from the holidays and with them the needs of others and helping members of our community in need becomes a priority to us because we are blessed to be a blessing to others.

This is the Bates family's 30th year of adopting families with our family and friends and our 22nd year adopting

families through the Macomb Infant Preschool Program (MIPP). We have decided to "completely adopt" the following family of four this year:

Caroline & Cameron's Family

We are adopting Caroline, (13 months), her baby brother Cameron (5 weeks), Mom (32), and Dad (42).

Caroline was diagnosed with intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR), a condition where a fetus is smaller than expected for the number of weeks gestational age of pregnancy. She was born five weeks early, weighing just 3 pounds 6 ounces. She spent two weeks in the NICU learning to bottle-feed and regulating her

blood sugar. She remains in the 5th percentile for growth and faces significant developmental delays and vision issues. Caroline currently functions at a 10 month developmental age.

Mom & Dad have been together for nearly nine years and have been married since 2022. After nearly 20 years as a mechanic, Dad is now working repairing calibration tools. Mom previously spent 11 years working in the automotive industry. Mom lost her job just prior to having Caroline. Mom struggles with postpartum health complications. Her health concerns and caring for her children's significant care needs have prevented her from returning to work.

Mom says, "We've always worked hard to build a life together, but the unexpected challenges our family has faced have made this season especially difficult. Our family's journey hasn't been the one we imagined, but we continue to take things one day at a time, doing everything we can to give Caroline and Cameron the care, support, and opportunities they deserve."

Additional Needs

We have also had several other families reach out through MIPP with larger items needs like car seats, high chairs, car seats, learning toys, beddings, etc. We will provide these items to additional families as we are able based on our funding this year.

Can You Help?

As is our custom, we will only come to you TWO TIMES this year via email. Please note that this is our first email and we will send ONLY ONE follow up unless we need to follow up on a pledge from you.

If you are interested in helping, we hope that you will consider writing out your check or sending a PayPal (see below) immediately so you don't forget. We plan to do the majority of the shopping for our family's needs on or about November 6th. We are about to purchase and deliver coats for the family since the weather likely to move significantly colder soon. We will send one additional email with an update on our donation status and then you will not hear from us unless you made a donation or financial pledge that requires follow up or when we send a "*thank you*"!

Whether you can donate \$5 or \$1,000 or more, we will put it to the best use we can and the value that our combined funds and efforts can have to others who are struggling is tremendous. We pool all of the funds and meet as many of the needs of local families as possible.

Kohl's on 26 Mile Road in Shelby Township, generously gives us significant discounts on the merchandise that we purchase in their store. As a result, everything bought at Kohl's costs pennies on the dollar. We have requested their help again this year!

We also have vendors that give us discounts or support and contribute yearly because they care. If we have more money than we need for this deserving family, we will provide food and clothing gift cards, and large items like car seats to additional families, as there are many others in need and still more coming forward to ask for assistance. **Last year we were also able to help additional families with more than 42 food gift cards and provide an additional 12 car seats to other families..**

If you are willing to help, please email us with your commitment as soon as you can.

Contributions can be made through PayPal...

Contributions via PayPal can be made by [CLICKING HERE](#), input an amount, and select "Donate with PayPal". **Please know that we do NOT pay processing fees on PayPal contributions so this is a super fast and convenient way to make a contribution.**

Or By Check...

If you are sending a check, please make checks payable to the "Four County Community Foundation - Jamie's Smiles" and send to 141 South Main Street, Ste. A, Romeo MI 48065. We need to know what our budget will be to make purchases, so please help us out by sending your check, PayPal, or email commitment by Monday, November 2nd! If you prefer you can also contribute items, but these will not be tax deductible.

For more information about Jamie's Smiles, please call Gretchen at 586-206-5556 or visit us on [Facebook](#) or on our regularly updated [Website](#).

We thought you might be interested in checking out just a couple of pictures of families from previous adoptions below...

Thank your for time, consideration and generosity,

The Bates Family & Jamie's Smiles

PS By way of background for those of you who are new to the invitation (please bear with us if you have seen this before), for many years we have championed adopting families of special needs children through MIPP. This is the organization that gave Jameson such phenomenal care and therapy while he

was with us and sick with Infantile Spasms. We choose needy families with children with special needs who need a "hand up." Often, people do not realize the financial, physical and emotional burden of raising special children. They are incredible! They are worth it! But fiscally speaking, they can set you back so that you can never recover. In the 19 months that we had Jamie, his care cost approximately \$40,000 out of pocket and we had EXCELLENT insurance. You can imagine what it does to people with lesser insurance, etc. We try to help mitigate some of these costs for as many families as we can every year. Please join us in making a difference in these people's lives.

CLICK HERE TO MAKE A DONATION VIA PAYPAL

**2025 Adopted
Child: Ivy
Opening Gifts
on Christmas
Made Possible
by Donations
Like Yours
through
Jamie's Smiles**



**2025 Adopted Children: Elodie & Aliyah in Their
Coats from Jamie's Smiles**



**2024 Drop Off
of Gifts to
Adopted
Family (Child
is Avalynn)**



**2024 Additional Adopted Family Pick Up of Gifts.
Mom, DeVaughn & Taj are So Thankful for You
Kindness!**



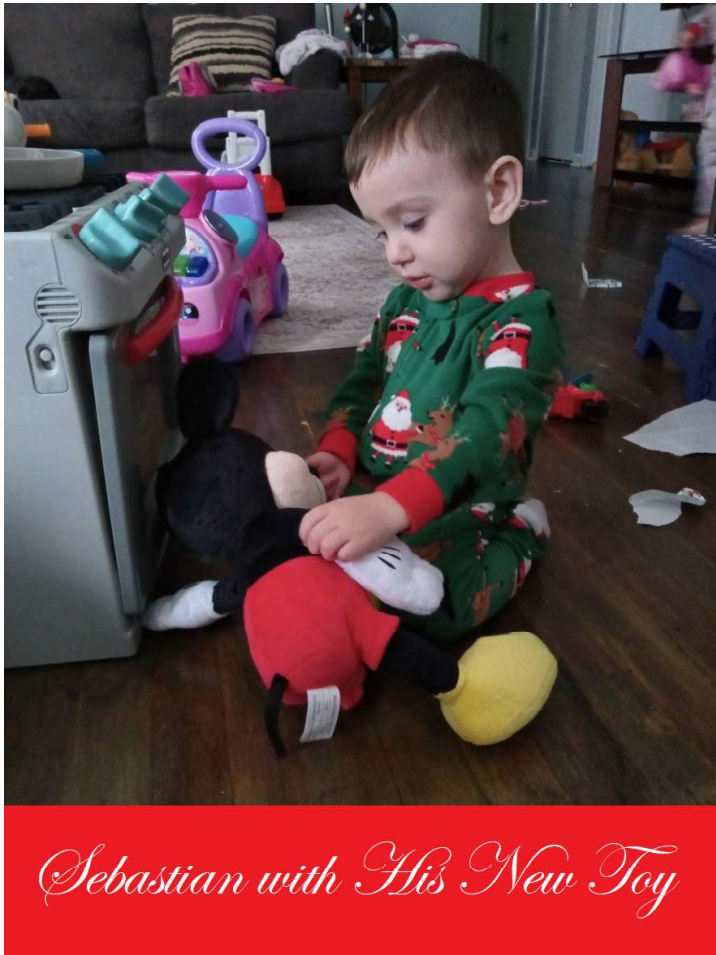
**2023 Adopted
Child: Carsen
With Some of
His Gifts**



2023 Adopted Child: DJ With Some of His Gifts



2022 Adopted Child Sebastian Enjoying Opening Gifts



Sebastian with His New Toy

2022 Adopted Child Emma Thrilled with Gifts



Emma Opening Her Stocking

Please Note: Jamie's Smiles is a fund held and administered by Four County Community Foundation.

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