

Agency kicks off toy drive

Enterprise Staff REPORT

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HIGH POINT - The United Way of Greater High Point has begun its fifth annual toy drive to benefit homeless children in the community.

The "Gifts for Homeless Kids" drive began in 2005 when an area retailer and the United Way of Greater High Point co-sponsored the program to buy toys for children living in transitional housing at The Salvation Army shelter and the Interfaith Hospitality Network, Family Service of the Piedmont's domestic violence program (Carpenter House), and kids living in foster care through Youth Unlimited.

When corporate restrictions on that retail partner forced it to withdraw its involvement in 2006, the United Way of Greater High Point began using its Annual Meeting and appeals for support through the media to continue the effort.

Donations of cash to purchase gifts and donations of new toys, games, books, sports equipment and small electronics will be accepted at the United Way of Greater High Point at 201 Church Ave, High Point through Aug. 7.

This year, the Belk and JC Penney stores at Oak Hollow Mall in High Point are also collection sites for donated toys and gifts.

Volunteers are needed to wrap gifts the week prior to the party where the gifts will be distributed. Volunteers also are needed to help serve food and assist with activities at the distribution party for the children, which will be tentatively be held at the High Point Fire Station at 1309 Chestnut Drive at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 1.