



**BELLEVUE
LIFESPRING KEEPS
ITS HOLIDAY
ADOPT-A-FAMILY™
PROGRAM SAFE AND
CONTACTLESS**

and distribution program. Gift cards donated by the community will be distributed to Bellevue families experiencing homelessness to help brighten their spirits.

Meet Mila

Mila and her family need your support this holiday season. This family's story is similar to many Bellevue families who are experiencing poverty and housing instability.

Mila is a bright and energetic 9-year-old. She lives in transitional housing with her parents and her younger brother, Xavier. Lack of proper nutrition and uncertainty are the norm for Mila and Xavier.

When schools abruptly closed in March due to COVID-19, these challenges were compounded.

Mila's parents had been working hard to get back on their feet when the pandemic hit. Her father had gotten a new job and her mother was starting her spring semester at Bellevue College. Just a month after schools closed, Mila's father got laid off from his job at a local restaurant that eventually shut down and closed. Her mother, immunocompromised, suddenly found her day-to-day activities and obligations a threat to her health.

Mila's parents are working one day at a time to put the pieces back together as the challenges of their new reality continue. As the holiday season approaches, we are reminded of the comforts and joy that time with family, good meals, and celebrations bring to our lives. It can be easy to overlook the fact that the holidays don't include those bright moments for families living in poverty.

For Mila's family, and many others, the holiday season can be a significant emotional and economical stress and strain. Purchasing gifts and having special meals are not a luxury they can afford when they are out of work and struggling to provide basic needs for their children.

The Dignity of Choice

Thanks to the generosity of Points residents, last year 638 children received holiday food and gifts. Your continued support of this year's Holiday Adopt-A-Family gift card drive will help make the holiday wishes of local kids experiencing homelessness come true.

Gift cards from local grocery stores and retailers give families the ability to purchase meals and items that fit their individual needs. This small detail can empower a family who usually doesn't have the luxury of choice when it comes to visiting food banks or receiving donated goods.

Help Bellevue LifeSpring spread holiday cheer and make a difference for children like Mila and Xavier. A contribution of just \$100 will provide holiday gifts and food for one child.

Visit www.BellevueLifeSpring.org to learn more about sponsoring a family today.

'Tis the Season of Giving

Each year, Points residents come together to support their neighbors in need during the holiday season through Bellevue LifeSpring's Holiday Adopt-A-Family™. This annual event matches Bellevue families with generous local sponsors who provide them with gifts and food assistance during the holidays.

This year, after thoughtful and careful consideration, Bellevue LifeSpring has decided to adapt the event to a contactless gift card drive

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