



The 2026 Christmas Party for Foster Children

Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of the IWLA will host its holiday party for foster children on December 12, 2026, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the indoor archery range. The Fairfax County Department of Family Services, Foster Care and Adoption Services, will be inviting 35 foster children between the ages of 4 and 14 with their caretakers to enjoy a day of crafts, games, friendship, and smiles. Everyone will be treated to a kid-style lunch, with Santa arriving shortly after to hand out gifts to all the children.

Our Chapter does so much for the community, and this is one of those fantastic acts of kindness! We will need volunteers to make the party a success. The time line below is an approximate schedule of the events.

- Gift wrapping: Wednesday, 12/9/26, 6 p.m.-7 p.m.
- Set up and decorating: Friday, 12/11/26, 6 p.m.-?
- PARTY DAY: Saturday, 12/12/26, 8 a.m.: Kitchen help; 10 a.m. or earlier: Volunteers and desserts arrive; 11 a.m.: Children arrive; 12 noon: Lunch served; 1:30 p.m.: Santa arrives; 3 p.m.: Breakdown.

Craft tables and games will go on throughout the party. Lunch will be available until Santa arrives. Desserts will be available throughout the party.

Pickup trucks for set up and breakdown would be greatly appreciated to move the tables and chairs from the main field house to the indoor archery range and back to the field house after the party.

The sign-up list for volunteers will be available in October. It will have a detailed list of positions and the number of volunteers needed to fill those positions.

If you would like to help but don't have the time, a tax-deductible donation can be made to the Chapter to offset the cost of the party.

Please contact Shawna Wood at stwood1966@gmail.com with any questions. We hope everyone is looking forward to this event and the smiles on the children's faces.