



Military Children's Charity, Inc. Easter Baskets & Supplies Collection & Donation Guidelines

Introduction:

Military Children's Charity, originally founded in 2010, has a mission to acknowledge and recognize the children of American Service members. The Easter (aka Spring Season) collection drive is one of MCC's flagship programs. Thank you for stepping forward to participate with the donation of new Easter Baskets and supplies to assemble new baskets!

Your support is helping MCC to contribute moments of play, creativity and imagination. With purpose, these gifts remind our Military Children (and their families) that American's care about their repeated sacrifices. Please closely review the following guidelines to ensure a successful collection drive. Throughout the year, MCC collects and distributes thousands of gifts across multiple branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. Our team knows from sixteen years of experience that the more organized your collection drive is in advance, the more successful your results will be.

Gifts Guidelines:

- ✓ Please do not advance cellophane wrap any of the Easter Baskets or supplies; all items must be **UNWRAPPED**. If wrapped, our volunteers must then *unwrap* them before delivery to the U.S. military. Leaving items bought in original packaging is okay.
- ✓ As a non-profit organization, M.C.C. accepts only **NEW** items for our U.S. Military Children and their families, to say thank you. M.C.C. **will not accept used** or even *gently used* items. If you donate an item that we determine is *used*, we will be annoyed and must then spend volunteer time re-donating it elsewhere.
- ✓ Please plan to deliver what you have collected to one of MCC's volunteer team members, because our all-volunteer organization **does not own a vehicle, and we do not drive to pick up the** donations collected from you. **It is 100% your responsibility to get them delivered to an MCC volunteer point of contact. We ask that you work out in advance on 1) when you will deliver, 2) who is assigned from your group, 3) to whom in MCC you will deliver to, and 4) to where you will meet team MCC before you begin a collection drive.**
- ✓ MCC loves ♥ to utilize larger sand pails with shovels, as the physical Easter basket and then fill it with goodies. This allows the child to find further use for the sand bucket during the year.
- ✓ Please remember the teenagers! The teens are often overlooked by the donations that we receive. They like gift cards in reasonable amounts, like \$10 to \$20 each, (to fun places such as movie theaters, frozen yogurt, Starbucks), that we can incorporate into a small basket with additional goodies, like candy, make-up, games, etc.
- ✓ Also, please do not forget the babies; items for newborns to 2-year-olds are very much desired.
- ✓ MCC does not accept religious items to give to U.S. Military Children and their Families.
- ✓ Please do not leave notes inside the baskets, they will be removed. However, you are welcome and encouraged to include an unsealed greeting card of support and appreciation.
- ✓ Incorporating new STEM focused toys and books inside of the Easter Basket(s) is a bonus.
- ✓ Please **do not** donate recycled, dusty, funky smelling stuffed animals. This is gross, please do not do it.
- ✓ Please **do not donate any perishable items, food, baby formula, or candy**. MCC purchases all new food and candy fresh that is distributed to the U.S. military families from stores directly. Instead, please consider donating to MCC a Gift Card to a grocery store, Target, Walmart, etc. so our volunteers can purchase those items.
- ✓ If you collect any items in bulk, such as large cellophane bags, Easter Basket grass filling, baskets/sand pails, plastic Easter eggs, curly ribbons, scotch tape, stuffed animals, books, small gifts, (etc.) this is fantastic too! At the end of the collection, our team will assemble Easter baskets from all the miscellaneous supplies received.

Easter Basket & Supply Suggestions:

For convenience, MCC has created multiple gift shopping lists on Amazon. If you prefer, you (and/or your team) can place donation orders directly online at the hyperlinks listed below and these donations will arrive at our door. Alternatively, if you are doing a physical collection drive of Easter Baskets and supplies, the Amazon list will provide you with suggestions. **Especially important:** If you purchase from any of MCC's Amazon lists, please email our CEO a copy of your invoice, Amazon does not share the buyer's information: cherie@militarychildrenscharity.org

Amazon Lists:

1. Easter Baskets & Supplies U.S. Military Children: <https://a.co/du10j7G> →
2. Charity Operations – Help Us Help Our Military Families: <https://a.co/2GU6ayh>

Summary Recap:

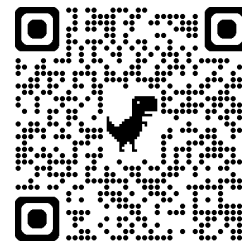
1. Do not wrap anything you are donating, even the Easter Baskets.
2. No *used* or *gently used* gifts – especially stinky stuffed animals.
3. You must plan and deliver your collection of new Easter gift donations to an MCC point of contact.
4. No religious gifts are accepted by MCC.
5. We encourage Americans to include an unsealed greeting card of appreciation.
6. Adding a new STEM toy and/or book into the Basket is highly recommended.



Donate Monetarily on MCC's Website Via PayPal:

This is the fastest and easiest way to give to MCC. There is no PayPal account registration needed to make a monetary contribution. Please include your contact information to receive a donor receipt. <https://www.militarychildrenscharity.org/donate.html>

Scan the QR Code to the Right for MCC's Website to Donate Via PayPal:



Monetary Donations, Cash, Gift Cards & Online Easter Purchases Mailed to MCC's Headquarters:

You may mail Checks, Cash and Gift Cards to MCC directly. Also, you may purchase new Easter Baskets and Supplies online at Amazon, Target, Walmart, (etc.) and ship these directly to our Headquarters. Please remember to email your invoice to Cherie for a donor receipt so that our team may thank you for your support!

Military Children's Charity, Inc., 21985 Highland Street, Unit B, Wildomar, California 92595

Physical Collection Drives: Host among your Company, Colleagues, Civic Organization, Religious Organization, Family & Friends, etc. Communicate Collection Plans & Questions – Contact (703) 999-0037

- ✓ Collect in either Northern Virginia or Quantico/Stafford Area
- ✓ Orange County & Riverside County in California
- ✓ You may collect in Los Angeles & San Diego Counties; however, you must either ship the donations to our Headquarters or plan to drive to Riverside County to deliver them.

DISCLAIMERS: Military Children's Charity is not affiliated with the Federal Government of the United States of America in any capacity. The Department of War (DoW) does not endorse this organization, or Isaiah Navarro (MCC's Founder), in any capacity whatsoever. MCC is a 501(c)(3) California nonprofit public benefit corporation, with permission to operate and solicit contributions in Virginia as well. Donations to MCC are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by Federal Law. For more information, please consult your independent tax advisor. A financial statement is available upon request from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS).