

Dear Gingerbread express,  
 Thank you for all the presents you gave me. I'm thankful for everything you have done for me. I think that you guys are really sweet, because you buy us presents and the money comes out of your pocket. So I wrote this letter to you so I could show you how much I appreciate everything you had done.



## Here comes the Gingerbread Express!

The NEA Rhode Island Children's Fund Gingerbread Express is a program that links our members and friends with needy public school students who may be facing a bleak, giftless holiday season. Each of these students list information about his/her clothing needs and wishes. The cutouts are then distributed to volunteers interested in filling the request.

This program has embraced thousands of needy children in the past. In many instances, the gifts from the Gingerbread Express were the only gifts the child received. To preserve the dignity of the students, complete anonymity for the giver and the recipient are preserved. This program is wonderful for the self-esteem of so many children that will now be able to come back to school after the holiday break wearing their new outfit too!!

You as the donor, simply purchase your gifts, wrap them, bundle them securely together, **attach the gingerbread cutout as the gift tag** and deliver them to the organizer of your group or to NEARI. What a great way to feel the magic of the season!

### Guidelines:

\*\*We suggest as a sample gift:  
 an outfit (such as pants and shirt/ sweat suit and turtleneck)  
 underwear, socks, a fun item & books



\*\*Wrap your gifts securely, taping boxes together if there are more than one, or use a large trash bag to insure they all stay together. **Very important – use the gingerbread cutout as the gift tag. Please tape the gingerbread cutout securely to the packages or bags.**

**PLEASE ADHERE TO YOUR DEADLINE** – missing it may mean a very disappointed child.

Sign up for a gingerbread cutout by filling out the form below or contacting Valerie Staples at NEARI Children's Fund – 463-9630 or [vstaples@nea.org](mailto:vstaples@nea.org)

Deliver gifts by: **December 5**

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### NEA Rhode Island Children's Fund Gingerbread Express

Please include me as a donor in the Gingerbread Express gift giving program:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

I cannot shop but wish make a tax deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Gingerbread Express. Or simply donate with PayPal at [www.neari.org](http://www.neari.org) (bottom right corner of home page)

*Return this form to: NEARI 99 Bald Hill Road, Cranston, RI 02920*