

Holiday Family Philanthropy Guide

At the Community Foundation for a greater Richmond, we're honored to work with individuals and families who share their giving traditions with us. Inspired by them, we've gathered meaningful and fun family activities for the holiday season. Explore these ideas to spark conversation, reflection, and ways to give back.



EXPRESS GRATITUDE

Like any habit, gratitude can be cultivated. This holiday season, invite family members to share a few things they're grateful for, shifting the focus from gifts to life's joys. Make it part of your routine—whether at meals, bedtime, or morning. Over time, you'll find yourselves naturally seeking daily moments of gratitude.

VOLUNTEER TOGETHER

Give back by choosing a volunteer activity that your family can do together. Our **Engagement Center** includes a service that matches volunteers with local nonprofits. Find DIY (do-it-yourself) projects, holiday opportunities, and year-round options that fit your schedule.

Visit CFengage.org to get started.



CONTRIBUTE TO A NONPROFIT WISH LIST

Want to support a local nonprofit with an in-kind donation? Wishlists allow nonprofits to share specific requests for items needed to fulfill their mission.

To review wishlists, go to: CFengage.org/nonprofitgivinglist.



GIVE THE GIFT OF "GIVING"

In place of a traditional present, consider giving a **Grant Certificate** to your loved ones. They can make a grant to a nonprofit that is important to them or one that your family decides on together. The minimum certificate amount is \$100 and is available to Community Foundation fundholders throughout the year.



Another way to make a lasting impact is through the **Giving Store**. Fundholders can explore curated requests from local nonprofits seeking funding for urgent needs — helping families, strengthening programs, and spreading generosity across our region.

To learn more about these options, please contact your [Philanthropic Advisor](#).



BUILD A PHILANTHROPY LIBRARY

Each year, give your children a book that emphasizes *Philanthropic Giving as a Family Value*. You can include a letter to your child or discuss how the books relate to your family values in philanthropy. Soon, your children will have a personal philanthropic library.

<u>Ages</u>	<u>Books</u>
1-6	• <i>Give Back</i> by Gina Bellisario - A little girl and her family prepare for a community meal and clothing drive, celebrating kindness and giving. • <i>Give This Book Away!</i> by Darren Farrell - A playful, meta story that invites children to literally pass their book to someone new — spreading joy through sharing.
7-12	• <i>Maddi's Fridge</i> by Lois Brandt - A touching story about friendship, empathy, and helping others when a young girl discovers her friend's family is struggling with hunger. • <i>Philanthropy Means Love</i> by Jessica Carbone - Teaches kids that generosity comes in all sizes and that anyone can make a difference by supporting the causes they care about.
13-18	• <i>The Power of Half</i> by Hannah & Kevin Salwen - The true story of a teen who convinces her family to sell their house and give half the proceeds to charity — proving one idea can change lives. • <i>Don't Wait to Be Great</i> by Jahkil Naeem Jackson - The story of a young social entrepreneur who turned compassion into a youth-led nonprofit supporting the unhoused.
Adult	• <i>Path Appears</i> by Nicholas Kristof & Sheryl WuDunn - Pulitzer Prize winners share inspiring, evidence-based stories of how generosity transforms both giver and receiver. • <i>The Big We</i> by Hali Lee - A modern take on collective giving circles and how everyday people are reclaiming philanthropy through community.

LEARN FROM EXPERTS

There are countless podcasts focused on family philanthropy that you can share with your family to spark ideas and conversation. After listening, share your biggest takeaways and how you can make an impact together.

[Empowering Family Philanthropy](#) -

A discussion about multigenerational philanthropy and how families can engage future generations in giving and structure philanthropic activity around shared values.

[One Family's Quest for Lasting Impact with Vivian Long](#) - Vivian Long shares lessons on long-term family philanthropy and authentic partnership. Inspiring philanthropy through authenticity and impact.

[How to Raise Compassionate Kids](#) - A family philanthropy expert shares how to nurture generosity and empathy in kids of all ages.

[My Father's Shadow](#) - Christina Lewis Halpern's story of reclaiming legacy and purpose through giving.

