



# FACT SHEET

Now in its third year, Operation Christmas Child, a project of international Christian relief and evangelism organization Samaritan's Purse, is sending a message of hope to children in crisis areas of the world through gift-filled shoe boxes, relief aid, and Christian literature.

In 1993, Operation Christmas Child collected 28,000 shoe boxes from across the United States and Canada and distributed them to children in war-torn Bosnia and Croatia. Last year, over 110,000 boxes were distributed in Bosnia, Croatia, and Rwanda. This year, with the help of individuals, families, and churches across the country, we hope to meet our goal of more than 200,000 shoe boxes!

This project can be as personal as you want to make it. And it's so simple, even a child can do it. Here's how to get started:



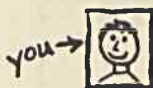
Find an empty shoe box. If you would like to wrap your box, wrap the bottom and the lid separately (wrapping is not required). Determine whether your gift is for a boy or a girl and their age category:

- ◆ 0-2 years
- ◆ 3-6 years
- ◆ 7-13 years



After choosing one of these categories, you can buy and pack appropriate items for your shoe box. Suggested gift list:

- ◆ small toys: stuffed animals, dolls, balls, cars, etc.—no war-related toys, please
- ◆ flashlight with extra batteries
- ◆ school supplies: pens, pencils & sharpener, crayons, coloring books, writing pads/paper
- ◆ hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, comb/brush
- ◆ Bible story picture books, English readers
- ◆ hard candy
- ◆ t-shirt, socks, etc.



We encourage you to enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family (this is not required). You can include your name and address—many people who did this have gotten letters back and have started a pen-pal relationship with their shoe box child.



Enclose **\$5** in your box (cash or check) to buy a "plane ticket" to help ship your box overseas, and place a rubber band around your box and lid.



We would like to receive your shoe box as early as possible. However, **all shoe boxes must be received no later than December 8, 1995.** Mail/ship your shoe box to: Samaritan's Purse, Rt. 4, Bamboo Road, P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607.

Shoe box collection will begin in November. A brochure with more details about the project is available. If you have any questions, contact Samaritan's Purse at (704) 262-1980 or call Dr. Hendrix at 838-6188.

*Sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa*