

# The Great Teddy Bear Drive – This April!

In support of April's Child Abuse Awareness Month, Rise and Shine Movement is hosting our annual stuffed animal drive to support the [Philadelphia Children's Alliance](#). Every child who receives services from PCA is offered the opportunity to select a teddy bear or stuffed animal toy upon leaving as a small token to help begin the healing process for children who have been sexually abused.

Our teddy bear/stuffed animal collection drive runs **through the month of April!**

## **Bear Guidelines:**

All donations are greatly appreciated, but we ask that you keep in mind the following suggestions to ensure that your gift is a safe & acceptable donation for the children.

- No used stuffed animals of any kind.
- Stuffed animals must be new and retain their tags so they can be checked for safety (per Pennsylvania state law).
- Donations should not be gift wrapped or boxed; we need to check everything for safety. Miscellaneous items (such as clothing and accessories), in most cases, will be removed.
- The filling for stuffed animals must be fabric or solid foam.
- The paint on surfaces should also be non-toxic and contain no lead.
- The outside “fur” on stuffed animals should not be brittle or harsh to the touch. Keep in mind that most small children will not only cuddle the animals but may put them in their mouth.
- “Humorous” toys and animals may cause fears and misconceptions and are therefore discouraged.
- Holiday items, while appropriate within a season, are hard for us to store out-of-season.
- Large stuffed animals cannot be distributed to clients and their families (the perfect teddy size is between 6-13 inches).
- Boys appreciate: anything sports related, any type of popular cartoon/movie or action character.
- Girls appreciate: anything princess or fairy-oriented, pink and frilly.
- Overall: All children like plain bears that are comfy and soft!

All donations may be **dropped off or mailed** to the following locations during the month of April:

- Wedgewood Gardens, 1890 Middletown Rd, PA-352, Glen Mills, PA 19342
- Faith Church of Worcester, 1341 Quarry Hall Rd., Norristown, PA 19403

**START A COLLECTION** at your office, church, or school. Collecting is a great activity for a youth sports organization or sports team, school community service groups, or mom's group, or for anyone looking for a way to serve others.

**Help us spread the word --**

Take a "selfie" with your bear/stuffed animal with #CSAHope or #GreatTeddyBearDrive and post it on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or Pinterest. You can also mention @RiseNShineMove or our website, RiseAndShineMovement.org.

Examples:

- I donated a bear to the #GreatTeddyBearDrive. Will you? RiseAndShineMovement.org #CSAHope
- I'm making a difference in the life of a child abuse victim! #GreatTeddyBearDrive #CSAHope <http://ow.ly/uu4Ve>

On behalf of the children who have experience a horror no one should, thank you for giving a little comfort during a painful situation. You have made a difference!

Questions? Email [Carolyn@RiseAndShineMovement.org](mailto:Carolyn@RiseAndShineMovement.org)

