

NEWS



Peterborough-based children's charity Embrace Child Victims of Crime has launched its annual 'Dear Santa' campaign

Help a young victim of crime

By Adam Barker
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A Peterborough-based children's charity has launched its annual Christmas campaign to provide gifts for children living in low income families whose lives have been devastated by crime.

Embrace Child Victims of Crime (Embrace CVoC), which is based in Copse Court, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough is the only national charity which dedicates all its time to supporting children, young people and families who have been victims and witnesses of serious crime.

Dear Santa is Embrace CVoC's annual Christmas appeal to provide gifts of choice for these children to give them a reason to smile on Christmas Day.

The Peterborough Telegraph has adopted Dear Santa as our Christmas campaign for the past two years.

Last year, thanks to the generosity of our readers and the charity's supporters, 1,463 children and young people received at least one present to open on Christmas Day. The children's charity said

it is more important than ever that people support 'Dear Santa' this year because of the huge impact the rising cost of living crisis is expected to have on families this winter.

Anne Campbell, chief executive of Embrace Child Victims of Crime, said: "Christmas should be a magical time of year for families but with the cost of living crisis we know many families are worrying how they are going to afford to buy gifts for their children this year.

"We work with families who are often doubly disadvantaged - their lives have been torn apart by crime and because of what's happened they find themselves living in poverty.

"Dear Santa aims to bring the magic of Christmas into their lives by making a Christmas wish come true for some of the most vulnerable children in our communities.

"These children come to us having suffered harrowing experiences they are struggling to comprehend. We give them the support they need.

"We urge you to give generously and help us spread smiles this year."

Each child referred to Dear Santa is asked to choose



Dear Santa provides gifts for young crime survivors

one gift up to the value of £35 that they would like to receive this Christmas.

These gifts are then posted on Embrace CVoC's website for supporters to buy - making a child's Christmas wish come true.

To buy a gift visit www.embracevoc.org.uk/dear-santa-2022.

You can also donate any amount to the appeal at <https://justgiving.com/campaign/DearSanta2022>

If you are a business who would like to support Dear Santa 2022 please contact Emma.Fleming@embracevoc.org.uk.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES

Embrace Child Victims of Crime supports young victims and witnesses of all crimes with particular expertise in helping families affected by all forms of abuse, violence and exploitation.

In 2021/22 the charity supported 3,738 children and families - almost a third more than the previous year. As well as emotional support and counselling, Embrace CVoC also provided £147,200 of practical support including food and clothing vouchers, toys, book, short breaks and days out. Find out more at www.embracevoc.org.uk.

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