**Contact:**

Emile Rizk

LACASA Communications Specialist

(517) 302-2520

erizk@lacasacenter.org

Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 1, 2023

**LACASA Launches Starry Night Holiday Toy Drive**

Community members who want to help Santa brighten the holidays for children and teens at LACASA Center are invited to participate in the nonprofit organization’s Starry Night Holiday Toy Drive, which begins November 1, 2023.

Donations of new, unwrapped toys or gift cards can be brought to the LACASA Collection, LACASA’s charity resale store, now through December 9, 2023.

Children and teens at LACASA Center are victims and survivors of abuse or neglect. Donated toys and gift cards are provided for youth who are living in LACASA’s Crisis Shelter and LACASA’s Transitional Supportive Housing units, as well as those receiving services at LACASA’s Children’s Center.

The items that LACASA children and teens need the most for the holidays include:

* Educational toys, games & books
* Arts and crafts kits
* Multi-cultural dolls
* Remote control toys
* Visa or big box store gift cards

“Every year it fills me with joy to see the smiles on the children’s faces when they unwrap the presents Santa has brought them,” said LACASA President & CEO Bobette Schrandt. “To know that these children have gone through so much, and to watch their excitement, is truly heartwarming.”

The LACASA Collection is open seven days a week and is located at 120 W. Highland Road in the Kroger/Crossroads Town Center in Howell. Donations are placed under the store’s giving tree and gift givers are invited to hang a star on the tree with their names or initials on them. In addition, those who bring in donations receive a 50% off store coupon for one item at the LACASA Collection (*excludes furniture*).

* MORE -

Toy and gift card donations received at the LACASA Collection during the Starry Night drive are distributed to children at LACASA Center during the holiday season.

For more information about the Starry Night Holiday Toy Drive, visit [lacasacollection.org/starrynight/](https://lacasacollection.org/starrynight/) or call LACASA Collection at 517-445-5050.

**# # # #**

**ABOUT LACASA CENTER:** LACASA Center provides comprehensive services for victims of child abuse and interpersonal violence. This locally-based nonprofit organization also spearheads county-wide education and awareness programs to help prevent abuse and keep our community safer. Learn more by visiting lacasacenter.org.

**ABOUT LACASA COLLECTION:** This unique charity resale boutique is the place where the public shops for great finds and LACASA’s clients shop at no charge. The Collection features new and gently-loved home décor, kitchenware, collectibles, and clothing for the whole family. All store proceeds directly benefit victims and survivors at LACASA Center. Learn more at lacasacollection.org.