

ANGEL TREE AT A GLANCE



WHAT IS ANGEL TREE?

Angel Tree® is a program of Prison Fellowship® that serves incarcerated parents by providing a pathway for strengthening and restoring their relationships with their children and families. Prison Fellowship mobilizes local churches and community organizations to give hundreds of thousands of children a gift, the Gospel message, and a personal message of love on behalf of their incarcerated parent. In addition, our partner churches meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of prisoners' families through year-round ministry such as camping and mentoring.

THE CRISIS

- Approximately **2.7 million children** in the U.S. have one or both parents in prison.
- More than half of incarcerated parents have not seen their children since they became incarcerated.
- Children of prisoners are twice as likely as other youth to experience mental health problems, depression, and attention disorders. They are also more likely to live in poverty and struggle with substance abuse.

THE ANGEL TREE RESPONSE

- In 2016, Angel Tree worked with thousands of churches and organizations to reach out to **almost 300,000 children** at Christmas.
- **More than 6,800 children** gained new experiences and friendships while learning about God's love through Angel Tree Camping® in 2016.
- In 2016, **more than 250 Angel Tree children** were matched with caring adult mentors.

3 WAYS TO HELP

1. Pray for Angel Tree and the families it serves.
2. Register your church or organization for Angel Tree Christmas 2017. You will receive names and gift wishes of children in your local area. After contacting their caregivers, you will buy, wrap, and deliver the gifts on behalf of their incarcerated parents.
3. Visit angeltree.org to make a monthly or one-time gift.

THE HISTORY OF ANGEL TREE

Under the leadership of a former bank robber named Mary Kay Beard, Angel Tree began in Alabama in 1982 as a way of helping prisoners and their children stay connected at Christmas. That year, Angel Tree served **556 children**. Over the past **35 years**, Angel Tree has reached more than **10 million children**. Today, Angel Tree is in every U.S. state.



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