

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CATHOLIC CHARITIES' ADOPT-A-FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM NEEDS ADDITIONAL SPONSORS**

OKLAHOMA CITY (Dec. 8, 2009) – As unemployment continues to rise in Oklahoma, Catholic Charities' Adopt-A-Family Program has experienced a greater need than ever. Created to provide low-income families with Christmas presents, the Adopt-A-Family program has made Christmas possible for thousands of Oklahoma families over the years.

However, as the program's recipients have grown this year, the number of sponsors has not. According to recent figures, the program still needs 73 sponsors to meet its goal of providing presents for 350 families throughout central and western Oklahoma. Without the benefit of adoption, these families won't be able to celebrate Christmas due to hardship and poverty.

Sponsors can be individuals, families, small businesses or even large corporations. Each sponsor receives a family's wish list with the names and ages of family members as well as gift ideas for each person. Please call 523-3028 to find out more about sponsorship.

The Adopt-A-Family Program also needs 20 to 30 volunteers to work different shifts recording sponsor and family information, managing gift drop offs and paperwork, and organizing gifts. To volunteer, please call Cassie Nearing at 526-2308.

For more information about the programs and services of Catholic Charities, please visit [www.catholiccharitiesok.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesok.org).

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