

GATEWAY TO GREATNESS

DEVELOP LEADERS. STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES. BUILD LEGACY.

School & Community Referral Guide

APPLICATION SCHEDULE: Opens October 26, 2026 | Thanksgiving priority deadline November 9 | Thanksgiving notifications November 13 | Christmas meal and winter clothing priority deadline December 4 | Christmas/clothing notifications December 11.

2026 Holiday Family Assistance Program | Louisville & Jefferson County, Kentucky

Gateway to Greatness invites schools and community organizations to help connect local families with our Fourth Annual Thanksgiving & Christmas Holiday Initiative. Our 2026 target is to support 100 unique households across Thanksgiving meals, Christmas meals, and winter coats and clothing.

Who can apply?

Households residing in Louisville or elsewhere in Jefferson County, Kentucky, who need holiday meal assistance and/or winter coats and clothing. Families may request more than one type of assistance. Assistance is based on assessed need and available resources; it is not guaranteed.

How to refer a family

1. Share the Family Assistance Application directly with the household. Families may apply themselves.
2. If helping a family complete an application, obtain the family's knowledge and consent before providing information to Gateway to Greatness.
3. Encourage families to select all relevant needs and provide a working contact method and accurate clothing sizes.
4. Direct completed applications to agatewaytogreatness@gmail.com. For questions or accessibility assistance, call 502-712-1332.
5. Gateway to Greatness will review requests consistently, check for duplicate households, and contact selected families to confirm assistance and distribution arrangements.

What referral partners can do

- Share application information through family newsletters, counselors, social workers, family resource staff, community outreach, or printed materials.
- Help households who have limited internet access or need language/accessibility assistance.
- Identify practical distribution opportunities or contribute coats, meal supplies, or other resources.

Family privacy and dignity

Do not send student records, confidential case files, Social Security numbers, medical records, or lists of family names without the appropriate consent and authority. A school or organization may distribute the application without disclosing any family information to us. Families are never required to participate in publicity, religious activities, or fundraising to receive assistance.

Selection and program administration

Requests will be considered using consistent criteria such as household hardship, urgency, assistance requested, and resources available. Gateway to Greatness will track unique households served to avoid duplicate impact counts. Where requests exceed available assistance, families may be placed on a waitlist or referred to other resources when possible.

Dates and contacts

APPLICATION SCHEDULE: Opens October 26, 2026 | Thanksgiving priority deadline November 9 | Thanksgiving notifications November 13 | Christmas meal and winter clothing priority deadline December 4 | Christmas/clothing notifications December 11. Distribution locations and pickup arrangements will be confirmed directly with selected households.

Program contact: Lionel Gates, Founder & CEO | 502-712-1332 | agatewaytogreatness@gmail.com

Website: www.agatewaytogreatness.com

Serving with Purpose. Giving with Heart. • Purpose Is On The Line.

Gateway to Greatness | Louisville, KY | 502-712-1332 | agatewaytogreatness@gmail.com | agatewaytogreatness.com