

December 6, 2023

Each year as a school community, Glenholme makes the commitment to give back to our local community and pay it forward. Friends of Glenholme – Holiday Community drive has chosen to partner with three local projects this year; The Town of Washington Social Services, Washington Volunteer Fire Department and New Beginnings of Northwest Hills.

First, we are partnering with the town of Washington to sponsor a local family who is in need of a little extra support to ensure for a joyful holiday season. This will be the 16<sup>th</sup> year that Glenholme has been able to deliver a little magic to those families who need it most. The Glenholme staff along with the assistance of our student community, hold an annual holiday raffle to assist in raising to donate to local families in need. Friends of Glenholme will also be collecting much needed food and personal care items to donate to the Warren and Washington Food Pantry.

We will also help sponsor the Washington Volunteer Fire Departments Annal fundraiser: Slices with Santa. The event is a fundraiser for the Washington Community fund, which supports Washington families and individuals who face unforeseen emergencies and who require assistance with paying heating/utility bills, rent or mortgage payments, food, clothing and medical bills. Our staff and students will be raising funds as a community and Glenholme will match that dollar amount on order to make a substantial gift to this effort.

And lastly, we will be collecting items for "New Beginnings of Northwest Hills" during our Holiday Community Drive. We will be gathering much needed necessities the volunteers need to ensure the Gathering Place is able to continue their mission. New Beginnings of Northwest Hills Litchfield County is a non-profit organization dedicated to the mission of managing The Gathering Place- a day-time drop-in center serving local homeless individuals, families, youth and veterans of Litchfield County. Once the items are collected – our young adults of the E3 Transition Program will do their part in giving back and deliver the donation.

Sometimes the best gifts aren't tied up in ribbons and bows but those wrapped in hope and joy are the most precious and memorable. Friends of Glenholme are elated to able to support these local agencies and their missions especially this holiday season.

