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### Help make the holidays brighter for families, veterans

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University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Help make the holidays brighter for families, veterans" (2008). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 21242.  
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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Nov. 10, 2008

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### **HELP MAKE THE HOLIDAYS BRIGHTER FOR FAMILIES, VETERANS**

#### **MISSOULA —**

The University of Montana's Office for Civic Engagement will team up with the Salvation Army, the Poverello Center and Valor House this holiday season for the 13th annual Adopt-A-Family and the new Adopt-A-Veteran programs.

The programs assist people who cannot afford to provide for themselves or their families during the holiday season. They aim to ensure that everyone in the Missoula area is able to celebrate the holidays.

UM departments, student groups and individuals are encouraged to adopt an area family or to help a veteran through Poverello Center's Valor House transitional facility for homeless veterans.

Community members can select families or veterans in need to provide gifts, food and other items that have been requested. The Bookstore at UM will host a gift-wrapping party from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11.

For more information or to sign up to adopt a family or a veteran, visit the OCE office in Room 015 of the Davidson Honors College, call 243-5531 or e-mail

[rohanna.erin@mso.umt.edu](mailto:rohanna.erin@mso.umt.edu).

OCE is a department of the Davidson Honors College that serves as UM's primary

agent of community activism and civic responsibility. Last year, UM Adopt-A-Family participants were able to meet the needs of more than 40 local families during the holidays.

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