

Christmas for Inmate Children

Each year Christian Jail Ministry (CJM) provides Christmas presents for 75-125 children of inmates at the Howard County

Detention Center, our local jail. The presents are given to the children as coming from the parent.

How does the program work? Because of the high turnover of inmates at the jail, the program does not start until after Thanksgiving. Then inmates who wish to have presents provided for their children sign up and provide the names and ages of the children along with identification of the custodian of the children and contact information. CJM passes that information to churches and groups which have committed to provide for a specified number of children. The church or group contacts the custodian for information about needs and wants of the children, purchases the items, and then delivers them to the children as coming from the parent.

Perhaps your church or group would like to be involved in this year's Christmas for Inmate Children. If you are, just contact CJM (410-997-0253, cjm@christianjailministry.org) or Mrs. Geneva Colbert, CJM Coordinator for the program (410-792-0514, jgcolbert@verizon.net).

The painting *Hapag ng Pag-asa* (Table of Hope) by Philippine artist Joey Velasco of street children with Jesus captures our motivation for this program of ministry to inmate children.

