## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX**

STEP ONE: Use an empty shoe box (standard size, please) or a small plastic container. You can wrap the box (lid separately), but wrapping is not required. Do Not Seal the Box.

**STEP TWO:** Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Print out the appropriate boy/girl label shown below. Mark the correct age category on the label, and tape the label to the top of your box.

STEP THREE: Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child.

## **GIFT IDEAS**

**TOYS:** small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, unopened Happy Meal toys, inflatable balls, jump rope, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, balloons, kazoos, compass, etc.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** pens, pencils and sharpener, erasers, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, stickers, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc. **HYGIENE ITEMS:** toothbrush, mild *UNSCENTED* bar soap (in a plastic bag),

comb, washcloth, bandages, hand wipes, small pack tissues, lip balm, emery board, nail clippers, dental floss, etc.

Please note that some of these items may be used by multiple family members so it is ok to include several of the same items.

**OTHER:** T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, silly putty, silly bands, sunglasses, scarves, bandanas, shoelaces, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), plastic poncho in a packet, pony tail holders, barrettes, tape measure, key chains (LED), etc.

A PERSONAL NOTE: In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

<u>DO NOT INCLUDE:</u> Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans. **DUE TO IMPORT REGULATIONS YOU ARE ASKED TO NO LONGER INCLUDE TOOTHPASTE OR CANDY.** 

