

6th Annual Painters District Council 14 and Celestial Ministries Association Partnership 2024

Thank you, District Council #14 members and Allies, for your continuing support in our Christmas Angel tree partnership with the Celestial Ministry Association.

As the holiday season approaches, we come together once again to support children and families of the incarcerated, and we are deeply grateful for your commitment to this meaningful cause.

Celestial Ministries Angel Tree Prison Fellowship, which supports kids in Chicago communities in North Lawndale Community, we also extend our support to families in Austin, Garfield, Little Village, and Englewood whose parents are incarcerated. In Cook County alone, more than 37,000 children in the past six months have experienced losing a parent to incarceration. These children are impacted greatly by their parents' incarceration; a prison sentence can lead to distance and strain between a prisoner and their family. At Christmas, the emotional pain of a loved one's incarceration grows even more intense; the distance is felt by children and parents alike. To support family connection, particularly during the holidays, Angel Tree Prison Fellowship gives incarcerated parents a way to provide a Christmas gift and a personal message, delivered by caring local volunteers, as a tangible representation of their love.

This year there are over 800 applicants for Angel's tree Prison Fellowship. Our goal is to provide as many gifts as possible to these children that range from newborns to the age of 16.

If you would like to read more about this organization and programs they have started, you can go to the co-founders, Stanley & Antoinette Ratliff's website at www.celestialmin.org.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child/children or volunteering, please reach out to Helen Chung @312 421 0046 or Helenchung@pdc14.com. Christmas Angels with the child's name and gift wish are available now to pick up. We kindly ask that you spend approximately \$35 on each gift and return it to the Council gift wrapped by December 6, 2024.

Thank you for your supporting Painters' District Council #14 C.O.R.E. program and Celestial Ministries' Annual Angel Tree. Together, we can make a difference, we can bring joy and hope to many families this holiday season.

Best wishes to you and your family!

C.O.R.E. Program