

## **More kids need help**

By DEBORAH CREATURA  
The Observer

For the first time, Operation Christmas Tree volunteers have 21 infants on their Christmas list.

Chairperson Ron Skreptak says the organization, which gives more than 100 food hampers and toy baskets to those in need in the former Moore Township, generally has half a dozen kids under two years of age on its list.

"I don't know why but it's more than we're used to," said Skreptak.

The group run by the Optimist Club of Moore gives out food hampers that hold nonperishable food items like soup in addition to a turkey, a bag of oranges and apples, a 10-pound bag of potatoes, milk, bread and other essentials.

"All the food is donated by the community," said Skreptak, adding five local schools have collected nearly 14,000 cans going door-to-door and at school.

"It's been great," said Skreptak of the rate at which donations have been coming in, adding if there is any surplus the group will donate to other local charities like St. Vincent de Paul, the Huron House Boys Home, the Inn of the Good Shepherd and the Woman's Interval Home.

"The only thing we're short on is the 12-to-16-age bracket. We need clothing or toys that are age appropriate like basketballs, but other than that group, we're in good shape," he said.

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