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Santa America

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About Santa America



Santa America is a national volunteer service organization with a very special mission. Over two-hundred Santas' across America visit children and families in crisis. Santa Claus visits when a child or family needs him—twelve months a year—bringing love, hope and joy to special needs children in a loving visit of about an hour at home, hospital, or hospice.

Check out their website: www.santaamerica.org (<http://www.santaamerica.org>)

Santa Hugs [Click Here for the Hug Pattern \(/getattachment/member-center/make-a-difference/national-service-projects/Hugs-for-Santa-America/Santa_Hug.pdf.aspx\)](#) --

Learn more about Santa America PowerPoint by clicking here ([/getattachment/member-center/make-a-difference/national-service-projects/Hugs-for-Santa-America/SANTA-AMERICA-POWERPOINT-ESA-HUGS-FINAL-05262014.pptx.aspx](#)).

When Santas' visit children in hospice facilities, children who are suffering from PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), and children of our deployed service men and women they often bring with them a Hug to give to the child. These Hugs are scarves designed with mittens at either end. The child is told that whenever they feel they need one, to put the scarf on and their hands in the mittens and give themselves a hug. This hug is a reminder that Santa loved them and is always there for them.

These Hugs are hugely popular with children in desperate situations, and the need for Hugs is huge. This is where ESA comes in!

Santa America and ESA

In 2013 Marsha Barns of Kansas heard about Santa America and their Hugs. Marsha brought the project to her state and it quickly caught on. At the 2014 ESA Leadership Conference in Denver, it was decided that the Hugs project was one worthy of the support of all of ESA. Santa John, who presented in Kansas, flew to Denver to give a presentation about the Hugs and how ESA can help.

Santa John shared that they have a huge demand for Hugs all across the country, but only a small supply, and that they are at the point where they must pick and choose which child should receive a Hug. **Santa John then called ESA to action - asking us to commit to creating 4,000 FLEECE Hugs per year for the next two years.** ESA has enthusiastically accepted his call to service.

How YOU Can Help

You can help by creating your own Hugs and sending them to the Santa America Headquarters to be distributed throughout the country.

What you will need:

- FLEECE (important for sanitation and comfort) in red or green
- Ribbon (Satin works best, white, or Christmas-themed)
- Sewing machine (or some friends to help you!)

Click here ([/getattachment/member-center/make-a-difference/national-service-projects/Hugs-for-Santa-America/Santa_Hug.pdf.aspx](#)) for the pattern

Remember: this project can be for everyone! If you can't work a sewing machine, help cut out the pieces. If scissors make you nervous, you can volunteer to shop for the fabric, or, even better, solicit donations. Be sure to invite your crafty (or craft-impaired) friends to help - they will have a great time AND learn about ESA!

IMPORTANT: we want to keep track of how many Hugs are created so we know how close we are to our 4,000 Hug goal! When you've completed your Hugs, please take a photo and send it to Laurie at lauriel@epsilonsigmaalpha.org (<mailto:lauriel@epsilonsigmaalpha.org>?

subject=Santa%20Hugs&body=Please%20include%20a%20photo%20and%20the%20number%20of%20Hugs%20you%20completed.%20Way%20to%20go!) and include how many Hugs you are sending. We will keep track on a giant thermometer here at Headquarters and keep you all posted!

Get a Visit from Santa!

Santa America is THRILLED about this partnership, and they want to be sure that they are available to anyone who is interested in having a real live Santa to a regional, state, council, or chapter meeting to share about what they do in your area. There are Santas' in nearly every state!

We are all very excited about this project. If you have any questions, ideas, or would like more information, please contact Laurie at lauriel@epsilonsigmaalpha.org (<mailto:lauriel@epsilonsigmaalpha.org?subject=Santa%20Hugs&body=Please%20include%20your%20chapter%20information.>).

**CURRENT HUG COUNT:**

3,563/4,000

QUESTIONS? CONTACT LAURIE ([MAILTO:LAURIEL@EPSILONSIGMAALPHA.ORG?SUBJECT=SANTA%20HUG%20QUESTION](mailto:lauriel@epsilonsigmaalpha.org?subject=SANTA%20HUG%20QUESTION))

Hosting a Santa Hugs event in your state? Click here (</member-center/make-a-difference/national-service-projects/tool-kits-for-national-events/tool-kit-for-Hugs-for-Santa-America>) for the Hug toolbox to find promotional materials, talking points, etc.

Send your completed Hugs to Santa!

Santa-America, Inc.
4102 West 94th Terrace #110
Prairie Village, KS 66207

Telephone: 913-575-4126

Get in Touch

Newsletter

Keep up-to-date on what is going on with ESA International. Visit our [International Council Newsletter \(/member-center/chapter-management/international-council/newsletters\)](/member-center/chapter-management/international-council/newsletters).

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[State websites \(/community-membership/getting-involved/state-and-regional-profiles\)](/community-membership/getting-involved/state-and-regional-profiles)

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