



PRESS RELEASE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY HELPS SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER!

Over 2,400 Low-Income Children Receive Holiday Gifts

Los Angeles, December 23, 2014 - The Community Development Commission (CDC) and Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (Housing Authority) are bringing cheer to thousands of needy families throughout Los Angeles County this holiday season.



Through the generous support of Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe and local volunteers, the spirit of the holidays shone bright at the Community Resource Center in South Whittier during the 18th Annual Holiday Basket and Toy Giveaway.

Boxes filled with a turkey and all the trimmings for a holiday meal were distributed to over 300 area families, along with gifts for over 625 children.

Coordination of this annual event, which has become a staple for the community, is no small task. Over 75 volunteers from the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department - Norwalk Station Civilian Volunteer and Explorer Programs, Los Angeles County Fire Explorer Program, Whittier area Girl Scouts, local high school and middle school student volunteers, and dozens

of area residents, dedicated hundreds of hours of their time to bring this wonderful event to life. Their commitment to ensuring enough resources so that every family receives holiday meals and toys helps make this event a true success!

Additionally, throughout the month of December, the Housing Authority helped to ensure that nearly 1,400 public housing youth and 400 Section 8 Family Self-Sufficiency program youth, would have a merry and bright holiday season. The agency hosted a series of events at its public housing developments and administrative offices throughout the County, during which



children and their families were treated to holiday festivities that included food, games, music, and pictures with Santa to keep as a memento. The highlight of each event was seeing the children's faces light up as they received toys donated by our generous sponsors.

With the support of partners such as Shelter Partnership, Housing Authority employees, and other private donors, the agency collected toys, food, and monetary donations to give families a holiday to remember. Their investments were not limited to tangible donations. Target Stores provided over 20 employee volunteers who rolled up their sleeves to help wrap and hand out gifts, and even do face painting.

In total, the CDC/Housing Authority distributed toys to over 2,400 low-income children throughout Los Angeles County, spreading the holiday spirit! For more information on the CDC, please visit www.lacdc.org. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, Public Information Officer, at (626) 586-1762.

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