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Town of Palm Beach United Way's annual Toy Drive collects over \$19,000 and hundreds of gifts for children in Palm Beach County

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PALM BEACH, FL – The Town of Palm Beach United Way's 30th Annual Holiday Toy Drive will bring joy to hundreds of underserved children and families throughout Palm Beach County, after collecting hundreds of toys and \$19,160 in donations.

The drive, which ran November 5 through December 3, received donations from more than 250 individuals, families, community groups and businesses.

"It's amazing to see how many toys we collect as part of our annual drive," said Richard Rothschild, General Campaign Chairman. "The holiday spirit of the Palm Beach community really shined bright this year. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of all our toy drive donors who are helping bring smiles to the faces of hundreds of children in need."

A majority of the toys were split between four United Way nonprofit partner agencies: Center for Family Services, Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies, HomeSafe, and Milagro Center.

HomeSafe will distribute the toys to children between the ages of 1 month to 17 years old who live in communities in Palm Beach County that experience the highest incidents of domestic violence and child abuse, as identified by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. The agency will host neighborhood holiday parties on December 19 that will benefit over 200 children.

"The donated toys will bring such joy to our kids," said HomeSafe CEO, Matthew Ladika. "Through the generosity of Town of Palm Beach United Way donors, HomeSafe's children and families will have a great holiday. We are so grateful."

Palm Beach fire stations, Field of Greens locations, and the United Way office served as drop off locations.

"We are honored to participate in the Town of Palm Beach United Way Toy Drive," said Assistant Fire Rescue Chief Sean Baker, who's also a trustee of the United Way. "It's a heartwarming sight to see the fire station lobby full of toys. Service to others is what we're all about, and it's especially important for families in need during the holidays."

Findlay Galleries and the Worth Avenue Association each hosted holiday parties to collect toys for the drive. First Horizon, Holcroft Cosmetic & Family Dentistry, Palm Beach Flagler Rotary Club, Arcadia Gardens also hosted collections to benefit the drive.

The \$19,160 in cash donations will be divided between the following Town of Palm Beach United Way partner agencies: Achievement Centers for Children and Families, Adopt-A-Family, Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, American Association of Caregiving Youth, Catholic Charities, Center for Family Services, Families First, Farmworker Coordinating Council, The Glades Initiative, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, HomeSafe, Literacy Coalition, The Lord's Place, Milagro Center, Opportunity Early Childhood Center, Project LIFT, Take Stock in Children, Vita Nova, and YWCA.

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