



Contact: Karina Cardoza
Email: public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us
Phone: 956. 343.0011

COUNTY EMPLOYEES, PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS, SHARE THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS WITH HIDALGO COUNTY CHILDREN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2011

Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court congratulates the efforts of Hidalgo County employees who held a toy drive earlier this month to benefit low-income children in Hidalgo County. This year's toy drive garnered an extraordinary response from



employees eager to share their Christmas with those less fortunate during this season of giving.

Over 450 toys were donated by County employees, who were able to select the age and gender of the recipient of their gift. This year's toy

drive was driven by a few incentives. County Judge Ramon Garcia sent a letter to individual departments to encourage participation, adding that the department with the highest contribution ratio to number of employees would win a door prize at the County Employee Christmas Party that could be raffled off among department employees. The Information Technology Department had the highest contribution rate of 222%. Furthermore, Love Thy Neighbor Service Organization, a nonprofit organization founded by County employees, agreed to match each individual donation. As a result, over 900 toys were collected as part of this year's Hidalgo County Employee Toy Drive. [See more photos >>](#).

Recipients in each of the four County precincts were identified as the beneficiaries of the donated gifts. Three toy distribution events have already been held; the last event is scheduled for tomorrow in San Carlos. Approximately 120 Head Start children were ecstatic to receive toys from a very special Santa Claus (Commissioner Joel Quintanilla, *see picture*) in Precinct 1. A similar toy giveaway



was held for over 120 Head Start children in Precinct 2. Over 300 gifts were distributed in Precinct 3 this past Saturday in Sullivan City, where the County's gifts were distributed to all children under ten years from Sullivan City, Cuevitas, and Los Ebanos.

- MORE -

Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

Joel Quintanilla
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Hector "Tito" Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 4

Executive Office

Valde Guerra
Executive Officer

Public Affairs Division

Karina Cardoza
Director

2818 S. Business Hwy 281
Edinburg, Texas 78539
(956) 292-7026 P
(956) 292-7766 F
www.co.hidalgo.tx.us W
public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us E



Contact: Karina Cardoza
Email: public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us
Phone: 956.343.0011

The last toy distribution is scheduled in Precinct 4 for tomorrow, **Wednesday, December 21, 2011, from 1 - 5 pm at the San Carlos Community Center** (230 N. 86th Street). County Judge Ramon Garcia and Commissioner Joseph Palacios, along with County employees and partner organizations, will distribute toys to over 200 children from the San Carlos area.

All media are encouraged to attend this final giveaway. For more information, please see attached flyer.

Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

Joel Quintanilla
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Hector "Tito" Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 4

Executive Office

Valde Guerra
Executive Officer

Public Affairs Division

Karina Cardoza
Director

2818 S. Business Hwy 281
Edinburg, Texas 78539
(956) 292-7026 **P**
(956) 292-7766 **F**
www.co.hidalgo.tx.us **W**
public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us **E**

