

## **Merry Christmas from Hidalgo County**

**At this time of year, we reflect on our blessings and reach out to help those in need. We are blessed in Hidalgo County to have employees and elected officials who give back to our communities. Each year, our employees as well as individual departments and elected officials reach out to the less fortunate in our communities to help ensure these families and children have a warm, safe and happy holiday.**

**Commissioners and various county departments and offices joined together this year to provide all 3,690 children enrolled in our Head Start Program a toy that was personalized for each child. These 3- and 4-year-olds come from some of the lowest income families in our county. This year, we included gifts for every 3- and 4-year-old child in the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program. Children in CASA are victims of abuse and/or neglect and are represented by volunteer advocates. Our Sheriff's Office traditionally delivers food and gifts to families in some of our poorest neighborhoods, and other elected officials and their offices have held their own charitable events in communities or through our Community Resource Centers.**

**As we celebrate this holiday season, let's remember to reach out to those who are less fortunate with generosity and understanding.**

**May your holiday season be filled with love, hope, and charity and may you be surrounded by family.**

**On behalf of Commissioners Court and all of the County of Hidalgo, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

**– Hidalgo County Judge Ramon Garcia**

