



Stephen's Mission

The Toledo Kids Who Care

December, 2006

Merry Christmas

On this Christmas season, our thoughts turn gratefully to all of you who have made our success possible. There is no better time than this Christmas season to express our deepest appreciation for all your help, support, and friendship. It is in this spirit we say ... **THANK YOU** and best wishes for a very happy and health new year. May all the joys of Christmas be yours.

Special Thanks

We know that none of what we do would be at all possible without the support of all our families and friends. This support was really felt during this year's toy drive. Collecting over **365** toys and **10** bags of groceries for hospitalized and needy children of our community, this was by far the biggest Toy Drive we have ever had. We would like to thank all our new and old friends for helping and supporting us. We would especially like to thank Patty Huseinovic and all the staff from *McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter in Newark NJ*, Dr. Ruffalo, his family and all the staff and patients from the *A TEAM Approach Physical Therapy Center in Bloomfield, NJ*, and all the students, faculty, PTA and family of *Belleville School #5*, for all their hard work during this year's toy drive.

We would also like to thank the following people for their continued help. We would not be here today without all of you... Migdalia Llerena, Adela Bell, Joe & Freda Rygiel, Hilda Caso, Ester & Estela Prado, Anthony Nicosia, The Villa of our Lady Retreat House, Juan Rodriquez, Angela & Carlos Torres, Ruben Toledo & Family, Romelia & Luis Hernandez, Praxedes Estevez & Family, Rosabel Family, Santana Family, Rutigliano Family,

[Page 1 of 4](#)

P.O. Box 154, Belleville, N.J. 07109

Gen Mackin, Helen Rosikiewicz, Berta & Edid Hernandez, Milanese Family, Ojeda Family, Salgado Family, Maru & Orlando Melendez, Lourdes Patino & Family, Lavrador Family, Catalfaro Family and the Belleville Boys Scouts Pack 350, Cabezas Family, Abu & Aba, Nina Randy and Terry, Nina & Nino & the Torres Boys, and as always there are no words to describe the support we get from Mimi & Pipo. Thank you all very much!!!

Proclamation

On December 12, 2006 Mayor Raymond Kimble



and The Municipal Council of the Township of Belleville presented us with a proclamation honoring our achievement in helping the less fortunate children and families in their times of illness and need. It was a great honor to be presented with such an award. We would like to thank Mayor Raymond Kimble and the Town Council for this recognition and a very special thanks to our neighbor and friend, Anthony Nicosia once again for making our mission known to others.



Stephen, Stephanie & Gabriela with Mayor Raymond Kimble.

December, 2006

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Holiday Cheer

Here we are one more year celebrating Christmas with our friends in Clara Maass.



Thanks to all of you we were not only able to donate 50 toys to hospitalized children, but also donate a bagful of stuffed animals and a helmet to the emergency department.



Stephen, Stephanie & Gabriela with Jane Newman Kessler, CFRE Vice President Clara Maass Medical Center Foundation



Stephen, Stephanie & Gabriela with Sandy Thompson from the Emergency Unit

Donations from the A TEAM

We would like to thank Dr. Robert Ruffalo, his family and all the staff and patients from the A TEAM Approach



Physical Therapy Center for once again making us a recipient of

their outstanding food and toy drive for two consecutive years. A very special thanks to young Nicholas Ruffalo who went out and purchased toys with his own money. It is generosity like this that inspires us to do what we do. Thanks to everyone's kindness and generosity hundreds of boys and girls in our community have more joy in their lives this Christmas season.



Stephen & Nicholas Ruffalo with donations from the A TEAM Approach.

Donations from Belleville School #5

We can not thank all the students, families, staff, and PTA of Belleville School #5 enough for allowing us to distribute this year's toy drive. We feel honored to have been selected to represent the generosity of School #5's community. The response was so overwhelming that we were picking up toys up until the last day.



Stephen, Stephanie & Gabriela with Pasquale Gencarelli

Christmas @ UMDNJ

We started our Christmas vacation by visiting UMDNJ. It was no easy task to fit over 200 toys and 10 bags of food into our mini van. But with the help of



Mimi, Minnie Presley (president of the auxiliary at UMDNJ and member of the Board of Concerned Citizens in University Hospital),

[Page 3 of 4](#)

P.O. Box 154, Belleville, N.J. 07109

and the nurses from the pediatric unit we got everything out and we were on our way.



Minnie Presley, Stephen, Stephanie, Mimi, and nurses from the pediatric unit.

Our first stop was the office of the Board of Concerned Citizens in University Hospital to drop off the bags of food and some toys that will be delivered to shelters throughout our community.



With the help of the nursing staff we selected gifts suited for each child in the Pediatric unit. Some of the older children even got a chance to pick from a large array of toys.



December, 2006

www.stephensmission.com



It was really exciting to see all the cool things that were donated by so many generous people.



Thanks to so many of you, and to the wonderful staff of UMDNJ we not only distributed toys to the pediatric unit, but also to the ICU, ER, and even out in the waiting room of the ER. There are no words to describe the happiness we felt to be able to spread so much happiness to so many people. This was by far the most fun we have ever had. Words can not express our gratitude to all of you that make our mission so enjoyable.



*May you have the spirit of
Christmas
which is peace
The gladness of Christmas
which is hope
The heart of Christmas
which is love*

*Your Friends, Stephen,
Stephanie & Gabriela Toledo*