

The Union County Christmas Bureau

A Collaborative Effort of

The Union County Department of Social Services
Marine Corps' Toys for Tots
The United Way of the Central Carolinas
Council on Aging
Union County Goodfellows
The Union County Health Department
The Salvation Army



Contact Information

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News Release

Christmas Bureau Assisted Thousands of Families

February 1, 2012, Monroe, NC – The Union County Christmas Bureau made the Christmas season happier for more than 8,000 adults and children in Union County in 2011.

The Christmas Bureau was organized in 1983 to help meet the needs of low income families in Union County. The Christmas Bureau is a collaborative effort of many agencies within the county and serves as a clearinghouse to help prevent duplication of assistance among families. The Christmas Bureau relies on monetary donations, toy and gift item donations, and family sponsorships.

The Christmas Bureau accepted 2,215 applications for assistance in 2011, which was an increase of approximately 75 families over the previous year. Thanks to families, individuals, churches, civic groups, schools and businesses in the community, 574 households were sponsored, 1,215 individuals were sponsored through the Gift Tree, and 1,175 households were able to receive gifts during the Christmas Bureau's distribution days.

The Christmas Bureau was able to have ample space in the former Big Lots building which was provided by Monroe Crossing. Required space of at least 25,000 square feet each year is crucial to the program and being able to use the location was essential to the success of the program. Also, this year, a Volunteer Leadership Council was added to the basic structure of the Christmas Bureau which attributed to the success of this year's program. The volunteers were committed to serving the community's families in need as well as the donors. This commitment helped to strengthen the program and ensure that the integrity of the program was even better than it had already been. The volunteers that assisted the Leadership Council from October through December made this the best year in the history of the Christmas Bureau in Union County.

The Christmas Bureau will continue to accept new toys and monetary contributions throughout the year. If you would like to donate, please contact Gloria Haney at 704-296-4312.

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