

2002 Holiday Gift Drive



Gift Drive coordinator Bessie Rush-Johnson, center, is joined by CEO Roger Snoble and Fred Jordan Mission co-founder Willie Jordan. Children from MTA's Child Care Center, pictured here, also contributed gifts for the Skid Row kids.

MTA Gives 'Holiday Joy' to Jordan Mission's Skid Row Kids

(Dec. 13, 2002) It's been a tough year for the poor, the co-founder of the Fred Jordan Mission said Friday, but the generosity of MTA employees who donated toys, food, blankets and other gifts to the Mission's annual drive will bring holiday joy to the kids on LA's Skid Row.

The economy also held down the number of gifts collected through MTA's Gift Giving Drive, this year, but Willie Jordan thanked Gift Drive coordinator Bessie Rush-Johnson and her volunteers, adding that the Mission is "so grateful to all MTA employees for these wonderful toys."



CEO Roger Snoble, who helped load the gifts into waiting Metro Buses for transport to the Mission, said, "The gifts our employees have put together

will help many families that otherwise might not have a joyous holiday."

As Snoble and Jordan spoke, children from MTA's Child Care Center gathered around Santa Claus and a huge pile of plastic bags, stuffed with gifts, crowded the Headquarters entrance.

"MTA probably conducts our best toy drive," said Jordan, noting that other major donors have dropped out during the past year as stores closed and operations changed.

On Dec. 22, the Fred Jordan Mission will host a holiday party for 12,000 and 15,000 children and their mothers. The gifts contributed by MTA employees will be distributed to the kids at that event.

"MTA gives quality toys," Jordan said. "We like each child to have one nice toy along with two or three smaller toys. MTA is really the backbone of nice toys for the toy drive."

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