

Village of Mount Prospect Press Release

Mount Prospect "Toys for Kids" Program

DATE: October 23, 2024 **CONTACT:** Fire Chief John Dolan

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Many Mount Prospect families can use a helping hand at this time of year to provide their children with a memorable holiday experience. By donating toys or gift cards to the Mount Prospect Toys for Kids program, you can do just that. The 28th annual Toys for Kids program offers residents and businesses an opportunity to make the holidays brighter for hundreds of local children up to age 17. Last year alone, the program assisted approximately 100 families in Mount Prospect.

Mount Prospect Human Services Director Julie Kane discussed the vital need for such community programs that support families in need. "We have seen a steady increase this year in the number of families needing food pantry assistance. The Human Services Department and Mount Prospect Fire Department work to meet community needs and ensure that families in need have food for the holidays and gifts for their children. This program helps to alleviate some of the financial stressors associated with the holidays. The holiday program is a special event for both Village staff and the families assisted," said Kane.

Residents or businesses that would like to donate can drop off new, unwrapped toys at Village Hall or any of the four Mount Prospect fire stations from November 1 - December 6. Older children aged 13 and above can be especially hard to buy for. Some great suggestions for kids 13-17 are gift cards, hoodies, hats and gloves, skateboards, lotion and body wash sets, backpacks/duffle bags, sports-themed gifts, or jewelry and hair accessories.

"The annual Toy Drive has helped bring joy to countless families over the last 28 years. It is a tradition we are extremely proud of as it not only reflects the hard work of our members running the program, more importantly, it exemplifies the generosity of our community. The support we receive is truly amazing and very much appreciated."

Donations can be dropped off at:

- Village Hall 50 S. Emerson Street
- Fire Station 11 1415 E. Algonquin Road
- Fire Station 12 1601 W. Golf Road
- Fire Station 13 111 E. Rand Road (vestibule off of Rand Road)
- Fire Station 14 2000 E. Kensington Road