



Blue Sleighs are on their way for Pendergast Students

A Toy Drive and Toy Run for Needy Children is collaborating with Pendergast District

December 9, 2015 (Phoenix, Arizona) – [Blue Sleigh Toy Drive and Toy Run](#) is partnering with churches, local veterans' organizations, the VFW Women Veterans Advocate, civic organizations, local government, members and motorcyclists within the community for a very worthy purpose: the joy of seeing a needy child receiving a gift at Christmas.

Empty Tomb Church is partnering with Starlight Park Baptist Church, South Peoria Baptist Church, Well Spring Church, First Baptist Church Garden Lakes, Desert Springs Community Church, the Estrella Baptist Association and the VFW Riders, White Tanks to serve children and families in need within the Pendergast Elementary School District and the local community during the holiday season.

Ernest La Mertha, Director, shares his passion for helping others, "As a local pastor and veteran I feel that it is my responsibility, as I practice my faith, to ensure that others have an opportunity to experience the same love, peace, and joy that I have. I share these experiences through the camaraderie of riding motorcycles. We are partnering with the Pendergast Elementary School District, hospitals, and local Fire and Police agencies to nominate recipients; as we are undertaking the goal of presenting children of families in need within our community with a gift at Christmas."

They are conducting local toy collection programs until the Wednesday, December 16, 2015. Members of the community can drop off new, unwrapped, toys in collection boxes positioned in the front office of [Pendergast Elementary Schools](#), the above churches, or by contacting a toy drive representative. Coordinators will pick up these toys and store them in a central storeroom where the toys are sorted by age and gender, wrapped, and tagged with the recipient's first name.

Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux, Pendergast Superintendent, shared her excitement about the drive, "The toy distribution will take place with a Motorcycle Toy Run the weekend before Christmas, December 19, 2015. Together they will make several stops delivering the toys to the recipients in the safety of a local school or business parking lot. After the toys are presented, and pictures are taken, they leave to the next stop and the families return home to place the presents under the tree. These community members are true angels and will make so many of our students who would not otherwise be able to afford presents, very happy on this blessed holiday."

Supporters of the Blue Sleigh Toy Drive and Toy Run are inviting members of the neighboring communities to partner with them in this opportunity. The Blue Sleigh Toy Drive and Toy Run's ultimate success depends on the support of the local community and the generosity of the people who donate toys.

For further information or to donate toys, contact Ernest La Mertha, Director of the Blue Sleigh Toy Run, lamerthae@cox.net, and (602) 692-2544.