

NEWS RELEASE

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County Office employees offer support to families in need during holiday season

SAN JOSE, CA – In the true spirit of the holiday season, staff from the Santa Clara County Office of Education's Migrant Education department once again coordinated the adoption of several families in need this year. More than 15 families served by the Migrant Education program were adopted by staff from the SCCOE's Educational Services and Business Services branches and the Alternative Education, Environmental Education and Migrant Education departments.

"We really do make a difference in the lives of families," said Veronica Ramos, Director of Migrant Education. "Through the incredible efforts of our staff we are able to make the dreams of a few families come true and give them a holiday that they wouldn't have had otherwise."

The families adopted by Migrant Education are receiving clothing items, donations of food, gifts and grocery gift cards, and all items have been delivered to the families throughout the week.

SCCOE staff also contributed more than 280 toys to the SCCOE's annual toy drive, benefiting children served by the Head Start, Foster Youth Services and Migrant Education programs.

"While the holidays have traditionally provided an opportunity to highlight the needs of vulnerable individuals in our community, the reality is that throughout the entire year many of our children and families go without even the most basic of necessities," said Jon R. Gundry, County Superintendent of Schools. "I hope that the dedication of the County Office staff to reaching out and supporting the families and children in our programs inspires others to make a small charitable contribution or extend a helping hand to those in need."