

Contact: Capt. Chris Buchanan Telephone: 850-227-1115 Email: cbuchanan@gcso.fl.gov

PRESS RELEASE December 25, 2015

200+ CHILDREN TOUCHED BY TOY DRIVE

Overwhelmed with the response from Santa's helpers in Gulf County, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office distributed gifts for over 200 children this Christmas! The outpouring of support from the community, once again, made Christmas possible for many Gulf County children who would have potentially gone without receiving what they wished for.

Working closely with Dr. Patricia Hardman and Mrs. Barbara Van Treese, the collection points began receiving donations at the beginning of December. The Coastal Community Association, South Gulf County Fire and Rescue, the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club and Gulf 2 Bay Construction aided in the receipt of many donations. Monetary assistance for this year's project came from many individuals, community events and organizations; which included the Port St. Joe Lions' Club, the Jingle Bell Golf Tournament, and Christmas Bazaar at the Club.

The many wish lists from children were fulfilled and distributed to families last week. "Thanks again to all who gave!" said Sheriff Harrison, "It is an honor to serve such a giving community that makes it possible to assist families in need."

Prepared by: Capt. Chris Buchanan Approved by: Sheriff Mike Harrison