

January 2011

*Providing holiday memories
for 39 years and counting...*

2011 OGC Program Dates

- December 2nd, 2011 - Gift Collection
- December 3rd, 2011 - "Spirit of Good Cheer" flights

2011 OGC Goals

- Increase the number of participating agencies
- Increase the number of enrolled children
- Increase the number of donors
- Increase the number of participating employer and community groups

Children's Entitlement Fund

Beyond Christmas giving, Child and Family Services of Michigan also makes wishes come true for kids in foster care through this designated fund. Grants are awarded to meet special needs of children and youth in foster care not typically covered by traditional means such as insurance, public funding or local charities. For more information, visit our website at: www.c fsm.org/cef.htm.

Join us on Facebook!



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of Michigan, Inc.**
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Operation Good CheerSM

"Making Christmas wishes come true"

4,277 Christmas Wish Lists Fulfilled!

Child and Family Services of Michigan, Inc., is proud to report on the success of Operation Good Cheer in 2010. Each year thousands of Michigan's children residing in out-of-home placement turn to Child and Family Services of Michigan, Inc., to grant their holiday wishes.

Operation Good Cheer has always relied on volunteers to carry out this meaningful work. It's important to remember that Operation Good Cheer is really a year-round program and that a cadre of volunteers takes on many roles and provides countless hours to make it all happen.

Here are some key highlights from 2010:

- 4,277 children received gifts from their personal wish lists
- 261 donors (including businesses, community organizations, and individuals) combined to provide more than 13,000 gifts
- 44 different public and private non-profit agencies participated by enrolling children and distributing gifts locally
- 17 companies donated trucks, fuel, and a drivers for the gift pick-up and delivery to Pentastar Aviation for sorting and distribution
- An estimated 165 "Spirit of Good Cheer" flights took place to 16 airports across Michigan

Thank You is in Order!

Many thanks go out to each and every individual and organization that helped make Operation Good Cheer another tremendous success in 2010. We can't thank everyone individually but would like to highlight some here, including:

- Generous donors who sponsored children (purchasing, wrapping and delivering gifts) and/or made financial contributions in support of the program
- Hardworking volunteers who gave their time through workplace efforts, at the airport, and so many other ways
- Businesses that supported OGC through the engagement and support of their employees as well as the use of their facilities, staff time, and other resources
- Companies providing trucking resources as well as all volunteer drivers
- Pilots who shared their time and talents (not to mention their aircraft and fuel)
- Management and staff of Oakland County International Airport and Pentastar Aviation. The people, facilities, and overall support were absolutely outstanding!

A very special note of appreciation is extended to **Jerry Drew** and **Mike Pipia** for their continued service to Child and Family Services of Michigan through their coordination roles with Operation Good Cheer. Jerry and Mike dedicate countless hours of their time helping make sure the gift collection and delivery takes place each year.

Some Pictures From Operation Good Cheer 2010



...and Operation Good Cheer on the Internet

Operation Good Cheer can be found on the Web in many locations. Here are just a few of the references, photos, and videos we found that you might be interested in.

Youtube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9VO7yctvLE

flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/arkley68/sets/72157625420655493/with/5239544799/>

Picasa: <http://picasaweb.google.com/BDunbar111/OperationGoodCheer2010#5546997949948363666>

Employer website: <http://www.hubbardlaw.com/uncategorized/hubbard-supports-operation-good-cheer>

Facebook: If you haven't already done so, check out the **Operation Good Cheer** page on Facebook and let us know you "Like" us! OGC volunteers and supporters have posted a few things, and here are a few examples:

"This picture doesnt justify the 'true' amount of gifts that were in this hangar... Lets just say there was enough gifts to give at least 3 presents to over 4,300 kids..."



"Still sore and tired but would do it again next weekend if I could. What a great event by great people for a truly great cause."

"Over 100 children were provided for by employees at the United States Environmental Protection Agency's National Vehicle Fuel Emissions Laboratory in Ann Arbor, MI....THANKS ARLENE AND ZUNDIE for your coordination, you two are ANGELS!!!"

Did You Know That There Are Many Ways to Participate in Operation Good Cheer?

- Share this newsletter with friends and family and encourage them to visit our web site: www.c fsm.org;
- Visit the OGC Facebook page – "Like" us and then encourage others to visit the page and do the same;
- Mention OGC to your employer or community group and suggest they participate if they don't already;
- Make a referral. Feel free to send us contact information for anyone you think may be interested in receiving details about Operation Good Cheer and how they can get involved;
- Make a contribution via your cell phone and encourage others to do it too! Simply text **OGC** to **27722** to make a \$10 donation to Operation Good Cheer. [\$10 will be added to your mobile phone bill/deducted from your prepaid account. Message and Data Rates May Apply. Reply STOP to 27722 to stop. Full terms found at mGive.com/T.]

40th Anniversary of Operation Good Cheer!

It may be hard to believe, but Operation Good Cheer has been making Christmas wishes come true since 1971. Tens of thousands of children have benefitted from the generosity and spirit of kindness provided by thousands of volunteers who have donated money, time, muscle and sweat to make it all happen. We're looking forward to an exciting and extremely successful Operation Good Cheer in 2011 and hope you'll be able to join us in this very special year!