



City of
OAKLAND
California

News from: City of Oakland

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 23, 2013

City of Oakland Spreads Holiday Cheer Through Holiday Dinner, Toy Drive

Oakland, CA — Today, the City of Oakland will host the **22nd annual Holiday Dinner** from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to feed 2,000 seniors and those who are homeless and/or low income. Simultaneously, the final distribution for the **33rd annual Mayor's Community Toy Drive** will take place, wrapping up a successful tradition that brightened the holidays for more than 8,000 children from low-income Oakland families.

Media Contacts:

Anne Campbell-Washington
510-238-7157

ACampbell-Washington@oaklandnet.com

Facebook: CityofOakland

Twitter: @CityofOaklandCA

“Thanks to the generosity of residents and the business community during this season of giving, those Oakland families and children most in need will have a more cheerful holiday season,” said Mayor Jean Quan.

At the **22nd annual Holiday Dinner** organized by the City of Oakland's Department of Human Services, the free turkey feast will provide a nutritious meal and entertainment to more than 2,000 low-income families, seniors and homeless individuals while providing them the opportunity to obtain a winter coat/jacket if needed. This volunteer-operated event brings out the best in our community and it is supported by donations, large and small, by hundreds of neighborhood volunteers – in a spirit of giving and fellowship. The dinner will be held at the Oakland Marriott City Center, 1001 Broadway.

The Golden State Warriors Forward Marreese Speights, the Golden State Warriors, the Oakland Raiders, and Amerigroup Corporation saved the day for the City of Oakland's Department of Human Services, Communities United Committee, Alameda-Oakland Community Action Partnership and the Emergency Food Providers Committee by donating toward the continuance of their annual citywide event. Other major sponsors of the event are the City of Oakland's Department of Human Services' Hunger Program, Alameda-Oakland Community Action Partnership, Communities United Committee, the Oakland Marriott City Center, and the many concerned citizens of Oakland and the surrounding Bay Area.

The City's Department of Human Services and its partners invite your participation as a donor. Volunteers will be serving a scrumptious dinner with all the trimmings while our guests enjoy live entertainment and a nutritious meal. Donations are greatly appreciated, as this event is entirely supported by gifts from agencies and individual donors. To make a donation please call the Department of Human Services' Hunger and Homeless Program at 510-238-7756. Your donations are tax deductible and the tax identification number is 94-6000384. Checks are made payable to the City of Oakland Hunger Program and may be sent to: 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Ste. 4340, Oakland, CA 94612

The **33rd annual Mayor's Community Toy Drive** wraps up a highly successful year today by distributing the last of more than 20,000 dolls, trucks, books, board games, sports equipment and gift certificates to 8,000 children from low-income Oakland families.

(more)

Toys and gift items were collected at the Golden Station Warriors game on December 19, Oakland fire stations, select Oakland libraries and many different business locations throughout Oakland. Chabot Space & Science Center, Children's Fairyland, Oakland Ice Center, Oakland Museum of California and Oakland Zoo generously provided passes to their attractions so Oakland children and their families can experience our city's world-class attractions. Other significant donations came from the Community Charities Bingo, the Oakland Harley Owners Group and an event in the Rotunda building hosted by Boxer & Gerson, LLP. Books shared by the Oakland Unified School District and the Oakland Public Libraries were provided by Disney and its local ABC 7 KGO affiliate.

#