

Compassion Network

...to the extent that you did this for the least of these people you did it for me... Matthew 25:40

Working as ONE CHURCH to serve our community seven days a week!

DECEMBER REVIEW

COMPASSION HIGHLIGHTS

BLANKETS GALORE!

• Grace Church of Fremont held a blanket drive and donated loads of blankets for several families during these cold winter months. Many people continue to be blessed by this generous donation!

THOUGHTFUL PAINTS

• A member of Grace Church of Fremont bought stacks of brand-new towels and blankets for a number of families on the e-blast requesting those items. In addition, he bought two pillows, pots and pans, silverware paint brushes, and paints for a single-mom with an autistic 7-year-old boy who loves to draw. She is currently residing in a domestic violence shelter and going through draining divorce hearings. The

night before we called to let her know her items were in, she had tweaked her neck sleeping on rolled clothes and had been hoping for a pillow, so she was so surprised and grateful when we called the next day to let her know someone had donated, among other things, pillows! God answers prayers!

HELP WITH PAPERS

• Members of SOBCC helped a man fill out immigration papers so his mother can come live with him in the US and become a US Citizen. Praise God for bringing families together!

DOUBLE BLESSINGS!

• A grandmother suddenly found herself the sole guardian and caretaker of her two infant grandchildren after her daughter unexpectedly left the state. Through CN, she got in touch with the New Mom's

Network and received a much-needed double stroller! She had also requested two car seats, but when they arrived, only needed one. Not hours later, we receive a mass e-mail from a case manager in desperate need of a car seat for one of her clients! Praise God--we were able to answer the call for the very grateful client, and what seemed like extra was actually just right in God's Master Plan!

RESUME HELP!

• A kind volunteer from InRoads helped a single-mom taking care of her teenage children and 19-month-old grandson, with her resume. She was very thankful and can now face the job market with renewed confidence! The volunteer was even able to help one of our unemployed volunteers sharpen his resume!

HELP WITH WALKING

• A member of New Hope Community Church donated a walker to a handicapped mother who had previously relied solely on a thin walking stick. Now, she can get around more safely and comfortably!

BABY DONATIONS!

• Since the start of the New Mom's Network, several mothers have been blessed with diapers, strollers, baby clothes, and other supplies--all because of generous donations! This month, we've received boxes of much-needed diapers, sizes 1-6 from kind-hearted members of various CityServe congregations! Thank you for continuing the good work!

TREE DELIVERY

• A kind member of Morning Star Church delivered a Christmas tree, complete with ornaments and stand,

to a family in need. The tree was donated by Pro-Net, an agency of unemployed professionals whom CN has helped several times--and now they're giving back!

FINALLY, A BED!

• A kind volunteer donated and delivered a sofa-bed for the adult son of a single-mom. She called a day after to thank everyone for their time and generosity! She said that her son is very grateful to finally get off the floor and sleep in a bed!

YEAR-END GIVING

• Two generous members of Harbor Light and New Hope Community Church donated \$850 and \$500 respectively! Pinnacle Manufacturing also donated \$5000! Thank God for raising up those who believe to support His ministry!

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COMPASSION ACTION STORIES

TREE OF HOPE 2009

Again, a story of the loaves and fishes! This year, we were able to bless families with about 700 toys! Almost all the children received more than one gift, but we couldn't have done it without the participation of our awesome congregations: FCC, Grace Church of Fremont, New Hope Community Church, Path-

way, New Life Mission, St. Paul United Methodist, Mission Springs Community Church, Cedar Blvd. Neighborhood Church, and Harbor Light. Our waiting list filled up fast and just when we closed it, Bridges unexpectedly delivered hundreds of toys collected from their Men's Pancake Breakfast--so much that we were able to take in more kids! Among the toys was a brand-new boy's bike, a raffle prize donated by a 7-year-old boy who had hoped that it would go to a boy in need and so CN was determined to honor his wish! The bike ended up going to another 7-year-old boy from a single-parent household, but little did we know that he was at the raffle drawing clutching his ticket and fervently praying for the same bike! Praise God for answering prayers! We had such an overabundance that we continued to give small presents to kids two days after distribution and gave a child's basketball hoop set and other toys to Discovery Cove, the childcare center in the FRC! Plus, we received generous donations from unexpected places, like a box of baby dolls and Littlest Pet Shop toys from the marketing director of the

Oakland A's, a last-minute donation of bath robes, beauty supplies, and small home decor items with which we were able to bless many single-moms, and most surprisingly, and a partnership with a large chain store that supplied about 60 gifts for teens and some parents. Many of the toy drives in the area only serve young children, but CN was lucky enough to serve not only teenagers, parents, and seniors, but whole families! Abundant Life Church (Fremont Ext.) adopted two special families and blessed them with a decorated tree, a Christmas meal, toys, warm clothes, and essential household appliances. The Nunez family, a single-mom with two adorable young children, and a third on the way was really grateful for the abundance they received for Christmas and came by the office the following week to show us their new clothes and treat us to hot home-made Atole, a delicious breakfast and after-dinner drink made of tamarind!

UP-COMING EVENTS

Coat Drive - Hundreds of free coats available Jan. 16th, 11AM - 6PM @ New Hope Community Church