

Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno Joins Toys for Tots Foundation to Bring the Holidays to Children and Families Displaced by Hurricane Sandy

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Helps Blue Angels' Unload C-130 Cargo Plane Filled With Toys for Children in Need

Trenton, NJ – Helping to make this year’s holiday season extra special for children and families displaced from their homes by Hurricane Sandy, Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno today helped unpack a cargo plane at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in Wrightstown and joined a human chain that carried the toys from the C-130, loading them onto tractor trailer trucks for delivery to Toys for Tots centers in Red Bank and Dover.

“For New Jersey families displaced from their homes due to damage or destruction by Hurricane Sandy, the expense of holiday presents may simply be out of reach,” said Lt. Governor Guadagno. “Despite the devastation it brought to our state and citizens, Hurricane Sandy shouldn’t deprive any child from the magic and joy this season brings. While it may seem the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is only delivering toys, it is really delivering warmth, smiles and love for countless children throughout New Jersey. I know I speak for every New Jerseyan by thanking the Marines Toys for Tots Foundation and the Blue Angels for their thoughtfulness and generosity.”

The toys were flown to New Jersey by the famous Blue Angels flight demonstration squadron, which delivered the toys in the 45,000 pound payload of their C130 “Fat Albert” cargo plane. The toy donation was arranged by the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, which provides toys and other signs of hope to less fortunate children at Christmas.

“For 65 years, Marines have delivered hope to children through the gift of a new toy during the holidays,” said Lt. Gen. Pete Osman, president and CEO of Marine Toys for Tots Foundation. “The widespread destruction from Hurricane Sandy has left entire communities in need. We want to help the children of New Jersey begin to heal and regain a sense of normalcy, which includes receiving a gift during the holidays. We want them to know that they will not be forgotten this year.”

While New Jersey remains in the recovery stage from Hurricane Sandy, helping New Jerseyans return as close to normalcy as quickly as possible and recovering from the devastation of Sandy will take much more time, resources, and assistance to families in need. Earlier this month, Governor Chris Christie and First Lady Mary Pat Christie formed the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund to assist residents impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Those interested in learning more can visit www.sandynjrelieffund.org or the address below:

Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund
PO Box 95
Mendham NJ 07945-0095
Email: info@sandynjrelieffund.org

Governor Christie has emphasized the importance of community service since his inaugural in 2010. Today, approximately 1.5 million New Jerseyans contribute about 170 million hours of service each year, bringing a positive influence to neighborhoods and communities throughout the Garden State through local groups, houses of worship and civic organizations.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is a not for profit organization authorized by the U.S. Marine Corps to provide fundraising and other necessary support for the annual Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. Now in its 65th year, Toys for Tots provides joy and a message of hope to less fortunate children through the gift of a new toy or book during the Christmas holiday season. Toys for Tots gifts offer these children hope, recognition, and a positive memory they will cherish for a lifetime. Many of the books, games, and sports equipment that Toys for Tots provide as gifts make a significant contribution to the educational, social and physical development of these children. In 2011, Marines

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distributed toys to more than 7.2 million children who might not have otherwise experienced the magic of the Christmas holiday season.

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