

COACHELLA VALLEY HOUSING COALITION

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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500 children to farmworkers receive an early visit from Santa with the help of three Indio-based community groups and a generous family

Indio, Calif. – The collective efforts of the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition (CVHC), Indio Youth Task Force, the Desert Recreation District, and Marvin and Linda Abajian contributed to the successful distribution of 500 toys for children living at Fred Young Labor Camp and Desert Garden Apartments on Van Buren Street in the City of Indio. The two events took place Friday, December 17, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Children at each site were visited by Mr. and Mrs. Santa Clause who distributed the wrapped gifts and took pictures with each child as he or she took turns sitting on Santa's lap. Entertainment by the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition's Ballet Folklorico and Mariachi troupes kicked-off the holiday season for the families living at Fred Young, who also enjoyed free hamburgers and hotdogs.

Fred Young Labor Camp and Desert Gardens Apartments serve low and very low income farmworker families. Additionally at Desert Gardens Apartments, a section of the community is set aside for retired farmworkers, the first multi-family site in the State of California to do so. Both sites are owned by the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition.

The Indio Youth Task Force provides funding for the After School program at Fred Young Labor Camp, which is operated by the Desert Recreation District.

The Coachella Valley Housing Coalition offers an array of community services at its 29 rental sites throughout Riverside county, which include: 9 After School programs, 7 child care centers, 7 Bilingual Computer Technology courses, and Mariachi Music and Ballet Folklorico dance lessons to name a few.

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About CVHC - Located in Indio, California, about one hundred miles east of Los Angeles, the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition (CVHC) is a non-profit housing development corporation dedicated to helping low and very-low income families improve their living conditions through advocacy, research, construction, and operation of housing and community development projects. CVHC has constructed more than 3,100 homes and apartments for low income households in Riverside and Imperial Counties. In addition, CVHC has developed childcare centers, after-school programs, and two medical clinics. It operates various services for its tenants and others including mariachi classes, English as a Second Language and Citizenship classes, an art program, and tennis and recreational programs. For more information, visit www.cvhc.org

See Below: Additional photos of the event at each site can be provided by request.

Mr. and Mrs. Clause talk to a young girl at the Fred Young Labor Camp gift distribution event Friday, Dec. 21 in Indio, CA

