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***Ho Ho Ho!* Santa Set to Arrive in Broward County 6th Annual "Christmas in July" Event Benefits Children**

We may be right in the middle of summer, but Santa Claus is headed to Broward County for the 6th Annual "Christmas in July" event, sponsored by Kiwanis Divisions 23 and 24 and Broward County. The event takes place at the BankAtlantic Center (1 Panther Parkway in Sunrise) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Christmas in July" provides toys, clothing, book bags, school supplies and a wide variety of donated items to approximately 700 homeless children being cared for by service agencies such as Kids in Distress, Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Angelica House, Hispanic Unity, Covenant House, the Broward Outreach Center, Sheppard's Way, Plymouth Colony, Providence Place, Women in Distress, the Salvation Army, the Community Family Center, Volunteers of America and others.

Broward County Mayor Josephus Eggleton, Jr. and Commissioner Ken Keechl will be there to greet the children and acknowledge the dozens of sponsors who make this annual event possible.

"Children across the nation end up in shelters or on the streets due to no fault of their own," said Broward County Mayor Josephus Eggleton, Jr. "Christmas in July is a real treat for these children and their families. The generosity of County employees, our residents and the sponsors is outstanding. These people really do make a difference in the lives of children."

“Broward County cares about these families. The County funds a variety of services to provide food and shelter, even daycare for these children,” said Commissioner Keechl. “Christmas in July is a wonderful way to treat these children to a day of fun and provide them with many items that are necessary for a new year of school.”

Kiwanis Division 23 and 24 partnered with the Broward County Board of County Commissioners to host the “Christmas in July” event. Since then a number of sponsors have joined in and donations have been most generous for this noble cause.

Children of all ages will be treated to a fun-filled day of games, entertainment, and food that will culminate with the arrival of Santa Claus who will distribute the hundreds of items that have been donated by Broward County employees, the public and dozens of generous sponsors throughout the month of July.

Media Note: Santa Claus will arrive to give presents to the children at approximately 12:30 p.m. This is a great photo opportunity and the news media is encouraged to attend.

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