



NEWS RELEASE

Lieutenant Ricardo Lopez
Media Relations Director

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HOLIDAY HELPER



Lots of smiles, tears of joy, surprise and speechless reactions as Sheriff's Deputies partner with a holiday helper for a mission of kindness.

It's tough for many families right now. Job losses, people dipping into savings to pay bills or borrowing money from family or friends to make ends meet.

On Saturday, November 21st, the holiday helper went on a ride-along with deputies in Rancho San Diego, Spring Valley, Lemon Grove, Vista, Fallbrook and San Marcos. Families received between \$500 and \$1,000 in cash and grocery gift cards.

Click on the photo to watch the heartwarming encounters. To download b-roll for broadcast, visit <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/MRikzftM8>.

Deputies identified the families in need while working as School Resource Deputies, on patrol in speaking to community members or while taking crime reports. Many are coping with the loss of family members due to COVID-19 or cancer. There are also domestic violence and burglary victims. Others are struggling with job losses and medical issues. There are single mothers, fathers and grandparents stepping in to raise the children of addicted parents.

The local businessman donated \$30,000 in cash and \$2,000 in grocery gift cards. He wishes to be anonymous. We thank the holiday helper for his generous donation. We wish everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

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