

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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25th Annual “Santa Clothes” is “Coming to Town” ***Las Vegas Area Rotary Clubs to Give the “Gift of the Holidays” to Children in Need***

For the unprecedented **25th Consecutive Year**, Las Vegas area Rotary Clubs will give the “gift of the holidays” to children in need of warm clothing this season. On Thursday, December 3rd, at 7:15am, Rotarians and volunteer shoppers will shop at J.C. Penney's stores located at the Meadows Mall, Galleria Mall and at the Grand Canyon Shopping Center where they will shop for shoes, socks, underwear, pants, shirts and a jacket, for children in need of assistance.

All 24 prior Santa Clothes events have had Rotarians and shoppers conducting the shopping with the at-risk children prior to the kids visiting UNLV, where they engage in supervised sports activities with college athletes and cheerleaders, lunch and an inspirational talk in the Lied Auditorium. However, due to understandable restrictions, Rotarians and friends will shop for, but without the children this year, in an effort to help prevent the spread of Covid-19. Past speakers at UNLV have included former NFL and UNLV Head Football Coach John Robinson, Former UNLV and NFL Quarterback Randall Cunningham and past UNLV Men's Basketball Coach Lon Kruger.

A brief video overview of the program can be viewed by clicking on the following link, or by copying and pasting the link into your browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WER76RCu9pU>

Program Chairman Jim Hunt reports that in 2019, 330 children benefited from the program and that since the program's inception 5,637 children in need have attended Santa Clothes and that \$1.4 million dollars of goods and services have been provided due to the generosity of Rotarians and donors. In order to reach this year's goal of helping 360 kids, the Rotary Clubs need to collect more than \$75,000. To make a donation of any size, contact Jim Hunt at 702-498-7787 or Michael Gordon at (702) 419-4650. Chairman Jim Hunt, who co-chaired the program from 2001-2006 and has served as Chairman for the past 15 years will pass the torch to fellow Rotarian Michael Gordon at the conclusion of this year's event. Long time co-chairs Tom Krob, Randy Donald and Gary Miller will also be passing their duties on to Rotarians Ginger Anderson, Dan Adamson, Howie Hopkinson and David Lester.

Rotary International is a worldwide fellowship and service organization with 1.2 million members in 200 countries, with 32,000 clubs. Established in 1923 as part of Rotary International, the Las Vegas Rotary Club is the first and largest Rotary Club in Las Vegas. The Las Vegas Rotary Club meets for lunch and fellowship every Thursday at Lawry's Prime Rib. To learn more about the Club and service projects, visit www.lasvegasrotary.com.