

New Bedford Firefighters' Union 20th Annual Toy Drive

This year marks the 20th Annual New Bedford Firefighters' Union Toy Drive with United Way of Greater New Bedford. Each year, New Bedford firefighters collect toys and gift cards to ensure that children and teens in Greater New Bedford have a happy holiday season.

New, unwrapped toys can be donated at any New Bedford Fire Station as well as a number of local community-minded businesses now through Monday, December 10th. Once toys are collected, a number of active and retired firefighters will spend a day sorting, filling, and delivering toy requests to organizations in Greater New Bedford.

"This initiative has embodied community spirit for the past two decades," said Victoria Grasela, Director of Marketing & Community Relations at United Way of Greater New Bedford. "Each year hundreds of members of the Greater New Bedford community come together to ensure that Christmas remains a special time for local families.. We are especially grateful to the New Bedford Firefighters' Union for its commitment to the initiative."

All of the items collected will be delivered to local nonprofit organizations that serve youth. Some organizations that have received toys from the drive in the past include: Meeting Street/Schwartz Center, NorthStar Learning Centers, Donovan House, Harbour House, Family Preservation Program, and United Way's Family Resource & Development Center. These agencies will distribute the toys to children through their various holiday activities.

Toys can be donated at any New Bedford Fire Station or any of the following businesses: Acorn Management Properties,

American Family Care, Baarsvik Souza Orthodontics, Bask, Buster's Sports Bar & Grille, Century House, Desert Sun, Dollar General, Empire Ford, First Citizen Credit Union, Glaser Glass, Greasy Luck, Honey Dew Donuts (Church St.), Knuckleheads Bar & Grille, Lowe's (Wareham), NBCU, New Bedford Housing Authority Office, New Bedford Health Department, Rose Alley, Southcoast Fitness, Star Oil Co., Tabor Nursing Home, The Donut Factory, The Lottery Commission, TJ Maxx (Dartmouth), West End Grill, and Zapp.

Please do not contact the New Bedford Fire Department with questions about the toy drive. Instead, contact United Way of Greater New Bedford with any questions at 508-994-9625 ext. 210.