

Will Your Company Host a Holiday Party with a Purpose this Year?

Greetings from the Farmington Area Goodfellows. If you are not familiar with our organization, our mission is that no child or senior should go without a Christmas. Each year we collect over 35,000 cans and boxes of non-perishable food through Farmington Public Schools and local businesses. We also collect toys, books and diapers. In November and December, we find a business willing to donate warehouse space. We collect and distribute these items to more than 400 seniors and children who live below the Federal poverty line in Farmington and Farmington Hills. For more than 20 years, we have also shared our location with the local Marine Corps Toys for Tots program which serves over 60 communities.

Many local businesses have asked us, "How can we help?" There are many opportunities to get involved. In recent years, we have learned that the "Party with a Purpose" has been a great experience for both organizations. Your employees can plan a holiday party with the goal of collecting food, toys or other items for the neediest in our community. It helps build awareness of how fortunate your employees are, and brings them an opportunity to be actively involved in serving the local community. Their involvement and connection to this mission brings pride and joy, and lets them know that your company truly cares about helping those less fortunate. It's also a great team-building experience.

Some of our supporters have successful programs including:

- Casual dress Fridays for a small donation to the cause.
- A holiday party where employees bring non-perishable food or unwrapped toys.
- Asking vendors to donate items which are raffled off at the holiday party for a donation.
- Ugly holiday sweater contest with donated entry fees

We can provide you with our expertise in planning your event. We also have signage and collection boxes available to help make it a success, and one of our staff will gladly attend and personally thank your organization for their support. If there is something else you need from us, please don't hesitate to ask.

If you have ever tried to fall asleep when you are hungry, you know how difficult that can be. Or try to imagine that Christmas day is no different than any other, when you worry about having enough food, or heat, or a roof over your head. We hope you will consider helping us to serve people in need this holiday season by planning a *Party with a Purpose* at your company.

Thank you and best wishes,



Farmington Area Goodfellows

Richard Lerner
President