

# News Release

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**For: Local News Desk**

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## **District Culture Embraces Community Spirit** *Poverello House Toy Drive to Brighten Young Faces*

Whether it's seeking partnerships for clean air, enlisting scientists to combat air pollution or using technology to tackle impending air quality standards, the Valley Air District is busy each day with employees hard at work. Their efforts also extend beyond the daily tasks and include a passion for the community which is embraced at every level and is supported by district policy.

So with the 2012 holiday season upon us, Valley Air District employees chose to focus on underprivileged children in the community and organized a toy drive for the Poverello House in Fresno. Following a two week donation drive, the effort wrapped up with a touching presentation from the Poverello House at an employee Thanksgiving potluck. Applause and cheers broke out when it was announced that more than 300 toys had been collected and would be shared directly with underprivileged children.

In an effort to provide staff with an opportunity to collectively volunteer for community service projects, the District's Governing Board authorized staff to organize and facilitate District sanctioned charity projects.

Just as our agency asks every citizen to make one change to help improve air quality, our employees welcome the opportunity to make one change in the community. The Poverello House will happily distribute the toy donation to the homeless families they have been serving in our community since the early 70's.

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District is a public health agency and special district of the State of California. To learn more, visit [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org).