

# Joi's Angels

*A Not-for-profit Organization*

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## The Annual Holiday Giveaway: A Smashing Success

**Through community outreach efforts, Joi's Angels Provided over 1,500 toys to families in need.**

EAST ORANGE, NJ, January 16, 2022-- Most people view the days and weeks that follow Thanksgiving as a crescendo to Christmas, filled with moments that evoke nostalgic feelings like no other time of year. But this is not so for low-income families; commonly, children in these families go without during the holiday season. That is why Joi's Angels has made the Holiday Giveaway a mainstay of outreach programs for nearly two decades.

With the help East Orange Fire Department, this year was no different. Based on the vision of Executive Director Mark Smith that no child goes without a toy or holiday cheer, December 23, 2021 was the day that an army of angels became an army of elves. Dedicated volunteers, friends, and associates once again swung into action. And because of community partners like East Orange General Hospital, Joi's Angels was able to gift over 1,500 toys to Essex County families.



The event was carefully choreographed by an indomitable staff and a company of dedicated youth. Yet no amount of planning could have prepared Joi's Angels for the line of children and families that stretched down the block and around the corner. Still, every child who walked through the door walked out with a toy, at least one candy cane, some hot chocolate, and a giant smile.

Millie, a single mother of four from Newark reflected: *It was the best holiday giveaway ever. Thank you for the time, patience, and resources you have given to this event to make it a successful one. My children went home so happy!*

### About Joi's Angels

Joi's Angels exists to provide basic assistance to needy individuals and families, to restore and maintain human dignity among the vulnerable. The prime beneficiaries of our efforts are food insecure persons, and those who lack access to employment, health, and social services. We also provide shelter to men with disabilities as well as volunteer and community engagement activities for at-risk youth. Our core functions are food pantries together with diaper, hygiene product, clothing, and feminine product distribution programs. We provide each of these services at no cost; neediness is the only requirement for participation.

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