

Youth end the year in high spirits thanks to Holiday Project sponsors, donors and volunteers

Christmas music and holiday movie favorites provided a festive atmosphere at the Office of Community Relations' (OCR) Holiday Project Workshop in Forest Hills, where staff volunteers gathered to select and package gifts designed to delight local youth.

Each item in the workshop was donated by philanthropic community organizations, businesses, and individuals, including Allegheny County Airport Authority; the unions of the Allegheny County Labor Council; Centimark; City Co Federal Credit Union; Duane Morris; Pietragallo Gordan Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP; PNC Financial Services; Shady Side Academy; Three Rivers AAHAM; Three Rivers Leather Club; Trau & Loevner; UPMC; departments and individuals within county government; and Sue Gove, CYF advisory board member. These donors – as well as countless others – exhibited the holiday spirit by contributing toys, toiletries, household goods, cash, and gift cards to brighten the holidays for children served by the Office of Children, Youth, and Families (CYF).

In addition to sponsors and donors, numerous staff and volunteers created behind-the-scenes magic to ensure the Project's success: the DHS facilities and public works staff, along with Director's Action Line (DAL) staff members Mark and Brian, who tirelessly transported gifts between the Workshop and the five CYF regional offices; the volunteers who sorted and thoughtfully handpicked each gift; and the caseworkers who delivered the presents to each child.

Thanks to the generosity of these donors and volunteers, more than 3,500 youth received gifts through the Project this holiday season.