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Local Business Spreads Christmas Cheer to Archway Programs' Partial Care Services Children

Honda of Turnersville dealership closed its service bay to host fourth annual Christmas party

TURNERSVILLE, NEW JERSEY (December 14, 2017) – Honda of Turnersville hosted their fourth annual gift and holiday party for Archway Programs' Partial Care Services youth on Wednesday, December 13th. Closing down their service bay to accommodate 40 kids of Archway Programs' Partial Care Services, Honda gives Christmas gifts that these kids otherwise would not be receiving from Santa this year.

Last month, the kids wrote down their top three Christmas gifts, not knowing if they would receive any. They received not just one, but all three of the items on their wish list. The look of joy and pure excitement on the kids' faces were priceless as Santa and Mrs. Claus delivered their gifts. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived on a firetruck nonetheless, thanks to the Whitman Square Fire Company of Washington Township. The holiday event also included a photo booth as part of the fun pizza party celebration. What's more, Honda of Turnersville surprised Archway Programs and donated a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the children in the Partial Care Services' programs.



Archway Programs' Partial Care Services youth were in awe as they spot Santa and Mrs. Claus arriving to their holiday party.



The Whitman Square Fire Company of Washington Township decked out the firetruck that Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived on.

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"Archway Programs couldn't be more grateful for the generosity Honda of Turnersville has shown us throughout the years. It's heartwarming to know we have groups like them to support our organization and the dozens of children who benefit from this relationship," said Marge Conner-Levin, Archway Programs' Chief Executive Officer.



General Manager, Min Chin, Honda of Turnersville (third from left) with Archway Programs' Program Supervisor, Ron Reid (left), Chief Operating Officer, Shawn Gibson, Chief Executive Officer, Marge Conner-Levin, Chief Financial Officer, George Richards and Partial Care Services Director, Ashlee Battle LCSW.

Children in the H.O.P.E. (Help, Optimism, Preparation, Empowerment) and D.I.S.C.O.V.E.R. (Direction, Improvement, Structure, Creativity, Oversight, Vision, Encouragement, Reward) programs are between the ages of five and eighteen with behavior and/or emotional concerns that interfere with their daily living. Kids in both programs live at or below poverty line and often times their families or caretakers have limited resources for necessities such as shelter, food, clothing and transportation. These programs have been in place since 1980 and serve children and teens in Gloucester and Camden counties. These programs use a successful model to provide children with a safe, consistent, structured and caring environment as Archway



Programs' staff discovers their individual strengths and the children overcome their deficits through coping and social skills.

The holiday party originated when Ron Reid, Archway Programs' H.O.P.E. Supervisor, reconnected with an old friend, former Honda of Turnersville salesman, back in 2013. Honda of Turnersville first donated and brought volunteers to help serve food at H.O.P.E.'s annual Thanksgiving celebration. After finding out that not all of the kids in the program would be receiving Christmas gifts, Min Chin, General Manager, Honda of Turnersville, came up with the idea to have a holiday pizza party. Honda of Turnersville has grown this into a memorable event that kids in Archway Programs' Partial Care Services H.O.P.E. and D.I.S.C.O.V.E.R. programs look forward to. To show Archway's appreciation, Reid started his own tradition of preparing lunch for the Honda of Turnersville employees after each event in addition to the kids who write "Thank You" cards for a holiday celebration they will never forget.



Hunter (age 7), Archway Programs' H.O.P.E. program, was thrilled when he received this gift from Santa and his helpers at Honda of Turnersville.



Demetri (age 8) and Domingo (age 6), children from Archway Programs' Partial Care Services, were ecstatic when they received their gifts from Santa and his helpers at Honda of Turnersville.





Honda of Turnersville staff, family and friends transformed their service bay for children from Archway Programs' Partial Care Services as they hosted their fourth annual holiday party.

For more information on Archway Programs, visit www.archwayprograms.org.

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About Archway Programs

Since 1965, Archway Programs has been meeting the special needs of thousands of families throughout the state of New Jersey. It is a private, non-profit human services organization. Archway Programs maintains fifteen model programs where individuals with physical, emotional and neurological disabilities are partnered with passionate, committed and talented professionals in a safe environment. Archway Programs strives to improve the life of every individual we serve. Approximately 440 individuals are employed through Archway Programs throughout all of its programs, which provide services up to 1,600 students and adults with special needs. Please visit <u>www.archwayprograms.org</u> for more information.

