



Contact:
Cindy Rose, Exec Director
christmaspartyofjax@comcast.net

The 26th Annual Children's Christmas Party of Jacksonville Saturday, December 14, 2024

**Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center from
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or earlier if all toys are distributed.**

- The Children's Christmas Party of Jacksonville is the largest one-day toy giveaway in the area. New toys will be given out to as many as 5,000 children on Saturday, December 14th, 2024.
- The Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center is located at 1000 Water Street., Jacksonville, Florida, 32204 (Corner of Bay and Lee Streets, Downtown Jacksonville)
- Throughout the Party, each child will receive several new, good-quality toys and a chance to win a special toy from the Wheels Depot (bike, scooter, or wagon).
- This event is open to children ages 12 and younger. This Party is only for Jacksonville's children in need which includes those who might not otherwise receive gifts this Christmas. Admission is first come, first served, and participants wait in line. No application or ID is necessary to attend.

The success of this event depends on the generous donations of at least 40 sponsor companies, as well as Jacksonville's generous citizens.

Some sponsors have opted to have a toy booth at the event from which they hand out toys that our charity has purchased with donated funds and gathered from toy drives at sponsor companies and the general public. Wheels Depot sponsors include Wells Fargo, North Florida Bicycle Club, and Remedy Intelligent Staffing, there may be as many as 500 wheeled toys in the Wheels Depot.

- During set-up week (December 10, 11, 12, and 13), volunteers will be unpacking toys and decorating in the "Winter Wonderland" theme. On Saturday, December 14th, this event starts at 9:00 a.m. with an auto parade and a ribbon cutting by Santa and Mrs. Claus and other VIP's. The party also features appearances by other fun characters.
- This huge event fills the entire main exhibit hall of the Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center (80,000 square feet).
- Around 600 volunteers from our sponsor companies set up and decorate the convention center during the week prior to the party. About 500 people also donate their time and talent on party day, (December 14th) to hand out toys, provide security, and entertain. Almost all our volunteer needs are covered by our sponsors. Volunteers attend an 8:00 a.m. orientation and stay until the booth clean-up ends at 12:30 p.m.
- The majority of the toys are purchased from Group Sales, Inc., a wholesale toy distribution company located in Cincinnati. In addition, 50,000 toys are donated by Ja-Ru, Inc., a novelty toy company located here in Jacksonville. Bikes and certain other toys are purchased from Wal-Mart store #1172.
- After the party, if any toys are left they will be donated to previously selected reputable toy giveaway programs (501C3 non-profits) for donation to more families during the week before Christmas.

This is the happiest holiday tradition for thousands of families here in Jacksonville!