

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pikes Peak United Way Seeks Volunteers for Holiday Gifts

38 Families Still Waiting to be 'Adopted'

Colorado Springs, Colo. — As the holiday season kicks off Thursday with Thanksgiving, 38 families are still on the list for gifts from a partnership between Pikes Peak United Way and Harrison School District 2.

This time of year can present challenges for many families in the Pikes Peak region. Through the Adopt A Family program, people can provide some holiday cheer for families from 19 schools in Harrison School District 2.

The 38 families still on the list won't have gifts without help from the community, said Cindy Aubrey, CEO of Pikes Peak United Way.

"During the holidays, we all get caught up buying gifts for our own families," she said. "Let's show some love to families in need by giving something, big or small, so that they will have a Christmas."

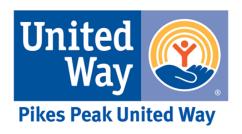
By signing up here, people can learn more about each family, their personal situations, and what to buy. Some gifts are simple – things like travel mugs or shoes – while other families have more complicated requests based on the size of the family or the age of their children. All families were chosen by each Harrison District 2 school's administrative teams.

Donors can drop off their gifts at the Pikes Peak United Way <u>Family Success Center</u> at 1520 Verde Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80910 on **Tuesday**, **Dec. 5** and **Wednesday**, **Dec. 6** from **7:30** a.m. – **6** p.m.

"D2 welcomes this community partnership, and we recognize there is more at stake than a student's academic success" said Dr. Wendy Birhanzel, superintendent at Harrison School District 2. "Your generosity and compassion can change the lives of our children and families. Thank you for considering the gift of hope this year."

Last year, more than \$207,000 in gifts were donated to 235 adopted families. In two days, gifts and bikes were delivered — adding up to 50 bicycles, 400 pairs of shoes, 198 coats, and more than \$15,000 in donated gift cards.

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About Pikes Peak United Way: The mission of Pikes Peak United Way is to enhance youth success and family stability in the Pikes Peak region by leading and lifting the most vulnerable in our community with mentorship, life resources, and real job opportunities. Our signature programs and partner agencies focus on connecting youth and their families to resources at the front end of their life journey to ensure access to fundamental needs of food, shelter, and learning resources. Visit ppunitedway.org for more information. **#LiveUnited**