



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Pikes Peak United Way Provides Gifts for Monroe Elementary Students**

**Colorado Springs, Colo.**— For many Colorado Springs families, the holidays are a time when children’s expectations collide with adult realities. Those hoped-for presents — the toys, clothes or shoes — just aren’t in the budget.

And that’s where Santa’s helpers at Pikes Peak United Way step in to support one local elementary school. The nonprofit has collected more than 700 gifts for the students at Monroe Elementary School in Colorado Springs School District 11.

United Way staff and volunteers will distribute presents to every child at Monroe Elementary on Monday, December 16, starting at 7:50 a.m. through the end of the school day. Santa might even make an appearance.

United Way provides the gifts at one of the city’s Title One schools, the largest federal program supporting students in elementary education. Resources are based on the poverty rates of enrolled students and are designed to make sure all children can meet state academic standards.

“We love watching the kids open the gifts,” said Cami Bremer, CEO for United Way. “For so many, these are the only gifts they will get, so we provide something they want and something they need. Often, that new pair of shoes or warm winter coat makes them smile even more than the toys.”

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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](http://ppunitedway.org) for more information. #LiveUnited