



## Metropolitan Family Service

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### MEDIA ADVISORY

December 17, 2007

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Metropolitan Family Service Holiday Cheer and Holiday Toy Store bring Joy to Families and Older Adults in Need**

Portland, OR—December 17, 2007--Volunteers and staff give generously of their time and talents at Metropolitan Family Service during the holiday season. Through two projects, Holiday Cheer, and the MFS Holiday Toy Store, isolated older adults and children of low income families receive a gift bag or toy to brighten their day.

Linda Kepford, MFS Volunteer and Holiday Cheer's supreme shopper organized this year's volunteer effort along with Marcy Hughes, assistant transportation coordinator. On December 1st, volunteers gathered at Augustana Lutheran Church to sort and wrap gifts and fill 235 gift bags. Volunteers continue to deliver gift bags to older adults and people with disabilities through December.

The Metropolitan Family Service Holiday Toy Store goes into high gear this week. The Toy Store provides toys for local families in need. Thanks to the project coordination efforts of staff members, Jarrine Shaw and Laura Knechtges, and community donations, low-income families who visit the Toy Store are able to select a gift for each of their children.

Beginning in December, individuals and businesses donate new, unwrapped toys to Metropolitan Family Service. During the week of December 17th, families who have contacted MFS will be able to arrange an appointment to "shop" the Toy Store. This year, the Toy Store was made possible through the generous donations provided by Adidas, Emily Andrews Photography, Bank of America (Hawthorne Branch), Lisa Ennis, Fruit and Flower Childcare, Medical Teams International and Metro Parent Magazine.

*Because together, we can do more.*



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## **Background Information:**

**About Metropolitan Family Service (MFS):** For more than half a century, Metropolitan Family Service has played a vital role in the lives of children, families, and older adults. We provide services at more than 100 sites, including more than 80 schools. Metropolitan Family Service makes connections that strengthen the lives of 32,500 individuals and families each year. Metropolitan Family Service's skilled and caring volunteers contribute more than 150,000 hours annually in the tri-county area, a value of \$2.3 million.

For volunteer opportunities, contact Pat Kaczmarek, Marketing & Communications Manager, at 503.232.0007, ext. 170 or [patk@metfamily.org](mailto:patk@metfamily.org), or Beth Jacobs, Volunteer Coordinator, at 503.249.8215, ext. 22 or [bethj@metfamily.org](mailto:bethj@metfamily.org)

For more information visit [www.metfamily.org](http://www.metfamily.org)

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