



Aiyana, one of the many underserved children who attended, shows Santa her appreciation.

December 22, 2014

UNDERSERVED KIDS HAVE COOKIES WITH SANTA

FIRST ANNUAL PARTY FOR FORMERLY HOMELESS CHILDREN DRAWS A CROWD

The Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation (VBCDC) hosted "Cookies with Santa," an event that gave formerly homeless children a chance to meet Santa and receive gifts donated by the community.

"Santa! Santa! Santa!" The kids chanted, and the Big Man himself was summoned by their holiday cheer.

Santa and his helpers passed out gifts including stuffed animals and high-demand toys like Barbie and Hot Wheels.

Over 30 children attended, joined by their families and the families of VBCDC staff. The children and their families were invited to participate in crafts, watch a screening of "A Charlie Brown Christmas," eat cookies, and of course sit on Santa's lap.

"I love these kids, and having the chance to meet with children in need and see them experience Christmas joy means the world to me," commented Santa. "The support of their community is one of the best gifts they can receive."

Addie Wright Thomason, Chief Executive Officer of VBCDC, announced that this event will become an annual tradition. "Each year we will find bigger and better ways to show our kids that they are loved and supported by their community," Thomason said.

The VBCDC is an award-winning nonprofit that has been building, supporting, and preserving communities since 1985. VBCDC operates Transitional Housing for families transitioning out of homelessness. Individuals and organizations who would like to partner with VBCDC in supporting families in need are encouraged to contact VBCDC at info@vbcdc.org.