



Press Release

City of Artesia, California

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 22, 2017: City Hosts Holiday Program, Distributes Project Joy Holiday Dinners

Joined by hundreds of Artesia residents, the City of Artesia hosted its annual Holiday Program last night at AJ Padelford Park. The event kicked off with a warm welcome to all attendees by Mayor Sally Flowers, who was joined by Mayor Pro Tem Tony Lima, Councilmember Miguel Canales, Councilmember Victor Manalo, and Councilmember Ali Taj, as well as Senator Tony Mendoza, ABCUSD Board Member Leticia Mendoza, and Christopher Craig from State Assemblymember Cristina Garcia's office.

Children and adults alike cheered as firefighters from Los Angeles County Fire Station 30 arrived in their Quint with Santa Claus in tow. Princesses from the Miss Artesia program passed out sweet treats to the children as they excitedly waited to see Santa. More than 155 children were able to meet, and have their picture taken with Santa. City staff and volunteers from the AJ Padelford Park Teen Center distributed toys to each child after their meeting with Santa Claus. Later in the evening, guests were treated to a musical performance by Anna and Elsa from Frozen before they took their place indoors to pose for pictures with children of all ages.

The City Council greeted many Artesia families as they passed out Project Joy holiday dinners to the pre-registered recipients. This year, the City's Project Joy program provided more than 75 holiday meals to Artesia families. Thanks to generous contributions, each family received a turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, vegetables, cranberry sauce, and a pie. The City would like to thank all of the individuals and organizations throughout the community that helped make 2017 a successful year for Project Joy, including: Holy Family Catholic Church, the Community Christian Center, Artesia-Cerritos Lions, Optimist, and Rotary Club's, the LEAD Foundation, Senator Tony Mendoza, ABCUSD Board Member Leticia Mendoza, Barbara Applebury of the Artesia Historical Society, Shaila Patankar of Hanmi Bank, Los Angeles County Fire Department Station 30, all of the City Councilmembers and City staff that donated. The City would like to give a special thank you to Manos Unidas for preparing and serving delicious food to all the participants.

View pictures of the event, [here](#).

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