



Steven M. Neuhaus
County Executive

ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

39 Years of Promoting Positive Youth Development!
1978-2017



Rachel R. Wilson
Executive Director

Youth Bureau helps spread Holiday Joy to Families throughout Orange County

The Orange County Youth Bureau has coordinated another successful Adopt-a Family program with **178 Orange County Families being adopted for the 2017 Holiday Season**. Local service providers, schools, and county departments referred families in need from throughout Orange County to the Youth Bureau who then matched these families with community partners who provided wrapped gifts for the holidays. Generous adopters included; Orange County Departments, after school clubs, scouting organizations, service agencies, faith based organizations, schools, law enforcement agencies and local businesses. One adopter shared, "This was really a gift for me...I already got what I want for Christmas because this kind of joyful feeling can't be bought."

The Youth Bureau also assisted with other holiday donation efforts by helping local businesses partner with community based organizations to provide additional items for the holidays. The Youth Bureau helped County Waste & Recycling find homes for brand new bicycles donated through the company's A Christmas Promise Program by connecting them to the City of Middletown Recreation Department, Cornell Cooperative Extension's Relatives as Parents Program, and the Village of Walden Recreation Department.

In addition, the Youth Bureau worked with TEAM Newburgh to secure toys and gift cards for 100 children in the Arch Pre-School Learning Center on the grounds of Stewart Airport by linking them to the Toy Drive through the Orange County Parks and Recreation Department and Quinnz Pinz.

This time of year can be especially hard for families who are struggling to provide for just the basic needs, let alone buy gifts for their children. Programs like the Youth Bureau's Adopt-a-Family give the larger community the opportunity to come together to show families who are struggling that there are still generous people out there who will give freely without expecting anything in return.

Youth Bureau Director, Rachel Wilson, reflects on the impact this program had during her former employment as a case manager. "I remember nominating families to the Adopt-a-Family program and being overwhelmed at the outpouring generosity my clients received as I delivered gifts and food to them. Words cannot describe how moved and surprised they were that complete strangers would do this for them. Thank you to all those who have taken the time to share hope and compassion this holiday season."

Please contact the Orange County Youth Bureau at 845-615-3620 or youthbur@orangecountygov.com for opportunities to continue to help make a difference throughout the year.

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Program Coordinator;
Orange County Youth Bureau staff



2nd Vice President for the
Youth Bureau's Advisory Board
Cloe Fain (center) with fellow
members of Girl Scout Troop 629



County Partners:
Orange County Family Court staff



Community Partner Adopters: Mountain Lodge Park Firehouse Ladies Auxiliary



Business Partner Adopters: Jacobowitz & Gubitz staff