



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**The Midnight Mission Brings the Spirit of Christmas to Skid Row
with Annual Santa's Village Toy Giveaway & Holiday Dinner**

- WHEN:** Santa's Village Set-Up: Saturday, 12/24, from 9 am to 4 pm
Santa's Village Toy Giveaway: Sunday, 12/25, from 9 am to 12 pm
Holiday Meal Service: Sunday, 12/25, at 4:30 pm
- WHERE:** Santa's Village Set-Up: Void Studios, 677 Imperial St., LA, CA 90021
Santa's Village Toy Giveaway: Void Studios, 677 Imperial St., LA, CA 90021
Holiday Meal Service: The Midnight Mission, 601 S. San Pedro St., LA 90014
- WHO:** Santa's Village is made possible by Event Sponsors **Valley National Bank, JMAC Cares, and LA Chargers Sebastian Joseph-Day** with special assistance from **Council District 14**, and hundreds of volunteers, businesses, service groups, and individuals who have helped us to collect thousands of toys over the past few months to distribute on Christmas.

We cannot do the toy giveaway in The Midnight Mission's gym this year because of Covid restrictions. But, thanks to our generous friends at **Void Studios** (just .9 miles from The Midnight Mission), we have the perfect space to hold our Santa's Village event and ensure families in need can still celebrate the joy of Christmas.

On Christmas Eve, we will be setting up Santa's Village with the help of actor **Amanda Peet**, musician **Jason Federici**, and hundreds of community volunteers. On Christmas Day, Director of Player Development, USC Football, and former NFL player **Chris Carter** and the **USC Trojan Football Team**, musicians **David Blasucci** and **Jason Federici**, actor/narrator/vocalist/dancer **Mandy Williams**, and hundreds of community volunteers will serve as elves on Christmas morning. A special thanks to **Norman Harris** of Norman's Rare Guitars for donating more than 100 guitars he will distribute at the event on Christmas.

- WHAT:** The Midnight Mission will host Santa's Village at Void Studios, where thousands of homeless and near-homeless children will be able to select toys of their choice and meet Santa Claus. Then, during our dinner service at 4:30 pm at The Midnight Mission, hundreds of homeless individuals and families will be provided with a holiday meal "to go."



WHY: These events will provide our homeless and near-homeless guests with the emotional satisfaction that comes with the opportunity to celebrate a national holiday. Of the many services The Midnight provides to our unique community, one of the most important is the sense of family we offer to those who often feel lost and forgotten during the holidays and other days of celebration.

MISC: We are appealing to our community and the hundreds of volunteers working with us to donate \$5 to \$10 each to help us cover the cost of the nearly 2,000 meals we will be serving. Donations can be made by texting the keyword “Meals” to 71777 from any cell phone or by [clicking here](#).

About The Midnight Mission: Founded in 1914, The Midnight Mission offers paths to self-sufficiency to individuals and families who have lost direction. Our emergency services and 12-step recovery, family living, job training, education, and workforce development programs offer a compassionate bridge to achieve and maintain healthy, productive lives. We remove obstacles and provide the accountability and structure that people experiencing homelessness need to be productive in their communities. Our conviction and commitment to their success define us. For additional information, please visit www.midnightmission.org.