

MICAH COMMUNITY



We've Crossed 1,000

In 2021, we helped parents of 832 children. While we anticipated that we would see similar numbers or even slightly higher, we could not have expected that we would serve **1,069** children this year.

On the one hand, how great for us to be able to serve so many. On the other, the increase of numbers means that more and more families are in need. It meant so much to so many that we helped make this holiday a little easier.





I want to share a few stories from the day:



- One mom said that she has known about this event for years, but her long road to recovery from a disability has meant she was never able to attend-- until this year-- and she was so thrilled to be able to come and pick out toys for her three kids.

- One of our volunteers this year nearly died two years ago in a motorbike accident. Last year his mom came to pick out a couple of games for him to play while he was in the hospital. This year, he was a volunteer!

- Several folks have already taken to social media to say thank you. "You made our whole Christmas!" someone shared.

Something like this absolutely takes a village of people to pull off. I want to take a moment to thank them here:

First of all, thank you to our sponsors: our great friends at [Keller Williams Paint Creek & Somerset](#), [Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency \(OLHSA\)](#), [DTE Energy](#), [2nd & Charles](#) and [Cereset](#) in Clarkston.

Thank you as well to all of our collection sites and community partners: [Rochester Church of Christ](#), [LakePoint Community Church](#), [Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church](#), [Lake Orion Church of Christ](#), [Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church](#), [Lutheran Church of the Master](#), [AkzoNobel Troy](#), [Team One Credit Union](#), [Kirk in the Hills](#), [Christ Church Cranbrook](#), [BorgWarner](#), [ARCH Global Precision](#), and more.

Finally, thank you to some of the rockstars who really just struck out on their own and took this to the next level: Chris Berkheiser and Mary Kroneman who were passionate about our teens, Chapri Paulateer and [New Life Community Church of Pontiac](#) who brought the help to ensure we could do this well. The folks at [Clarkston United Methodist Church](#) who helped with stockings. The students at [Rochester University](#) who also helped stuff stockings. The middle schoolers at [Derby Middle School](#) and Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church who each did a coat drive. The [Oakland County Board of Commissioners](#) staff who came out to volunteer.

And finally, thanks to all who bought toys, sent funds, and participated.