



District Grant Report

Rotary Club: Rotary Club of Villa Park

Project Title: Lifestyles Cycles Toy Run

Progress Report

Final Report

1. Briefly describe the project. What was done, when and where did project activities take place, and who were the beneficiaries?

The Lifestyle Cycles Joy Ride Toy Run is an annual community initiative aimed at spreading holiday joy to underprivileged children. This year, the event took place at Orange Grove Elementary School in Anaheim and benefited over 1,100 children and their families from Orange Grove and Patrick Henry Elementary Schools. Activities included a police-escorted motorcycle parade, a toy giveaway of over 2,000 toys and 500 bicycles, a pancake breakfast sponsored by Black Sheep Harley-Davidsons for Christ, and carnival games. The event was organized by Lifestyle Cycles, led by Mark "Junior" Skolnick, in collaboration with the Villa Park Rotary Club and community volunteers. Together, these efforts created a memorable and impactful celebration of generosity and unity.

2. How many Rotarians participated in the project? 15

3. What did they do? Please give at least two examples.

The Rotarians from the Villa Park Rotary Club played a pivotal role in making the Lifestyle Cycles Joy Ride Toy Run a success. Two key examples of their contributions include:

1. **Fundraising and Donations:** The Rotarians organized toy and bicycle drives, secured in-kind donations from local businesses, and raised funds to support the event, ensuring that over 2,000 toys and 500 bicycles were available for the children.
2. **Event-Day Support:** On the day of the event, Rotarians assisted with setup, decorating the event space to create a festive atmosphere, and managing logistics. Several members also participated in the motorcycle parade, riding their Vespas alongside Harley-Davidsons, further enhancing the celebratory spirit.

Their dedication exemplified their motto of "Service Above Self" and had a profound impact on the event's success.

4. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project?

The Lifestyle Cycles Joy Ride Toy Run benefited over **1,100 children and their siblings**, as well as their families, from Orange Grove and Patrick Henry Elementary Schools in Anaheim. This brings the total number of non-Rotarians who directly benefited from the project to well over **1,100 individuals**, considering both the children and their family members who experienced the joy and relief this event provided during the holiday season.

5. What are the expected long-term community impacts of the project?

The long-term community impacts of the Lifestyle Cycles Joy Ride Toy Run are profound and multifaceted:

1. **Strengthening Community Bonds:** The event fosters a spirit of unity and collaboration among participants, volunteers, and local organizations, creating stronger ties within the community.
2. **Inspiring Generosity:** By showcasing the power of collective giving, the project encourages ongoing philanthropy and inspires others to contribute to future initiatives.
3. **Providing Hope and Joy:** For the children and families who benefit, the event offers relief and optimism, demonstrating that their community cares for them and their well-being.
4. **Encouraging Volunteerism:** The success of the event motivates volunteers and organizations, such as the Villa Park Rotary, to expand their outreach efforts and continue their service to those in need.

Overall, the Toy Run creates a lasting positive ripple effect, nurturing a culture of kindness and collaboration that benefits the community for years to come.

