# *Village of Mount Prospect*
# Press Release

## Fire Department Toy Drive Celebrates 30 Years of Giving

**DATE:** October 27, 2026
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Mount Prospect, IL – Many Mount Prospect families can use a helping hand at this time of year to provide their children with a memorable holiday experience. By donating toys or gift cards to the Mount Prospect Toys for Kids program, you can do just that. The 30th annual Toys for Kids program offers residents and businesses an opportunity to make the holidays brighter for hundreds of local children up to age 17. Last year alone, the program assisted approximately 100 families in Mount Prospect.

Mount Prospect Human Services Director Julie Kane discussed the vital need for such community programs that support families in need. "The Holiday Program returns this season to ease financial stress for families navigating hardships, ensuring they can focus on the true joy of the holidays. This important initiative relies on a long-standing partnership between Human Services and the Mount Prospect Fire Department, but it is truly brought to life by the incredible generosity of our community. Every year, participating families share how much this support means to them, proving that the program is more than just financial relief—it is a powerful reminder of what it means to be a part of a community."

This year, we are urgently calling for community donations to support children ages nine and up, with a specific focus on meeting the holiday needs of teenagers 13-17. While younger children frequently receive ample support, older youth often present unique challenges during annual gift drives. To ensure every teenager feels remembered this season, organizers have highlighted the following high-demand items appropriate for ages 13-17:

- **Gift Cards:** Popular retail, entertainment, or digital service cards
- **Apparel & Accessories:** Hoodies, winter hats, gloves, jewelry, and hair accessories
- **Lifestyle & Travel:** Backpacks, duffle bags, skateboards, and lotion/body wash sets
- **Recreation:** Sports-themed merchandise and equipment

Residents or businesses that would like to donate can drop off new, unwrapped gifts at Village Hall or any of the four Mount Prospect fire stations from **November 1 - December 4**.

Fire Chief Tom Wang stated, "The generosity of our community never ceases to amaze me. Even after 30 years, the local 'elves' of Mount Prospect continue to show their generosity for this program."

Donations can be dropped off at:

- Village Hall – 50 S. Emerson Street
- Fire Station 11 - 1415 E. Algonquin Road
- Fire Station 12 – 1601 W. Golf Road
- Fire Station 13 – 111 E. Rand Road (vestibule off Rand Road)
- Fire Station 14 – 2000 E. Kensington Road

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