60th ANNIVERSARY

2019 MAYORS' CHRISTMAS MOTORCADE

a program of the Georgia Municipal Association

Central State Hospital, Milledgeville
December 3, 2019
Program 1:30 p.m.

Statewide Chair
Mayor Julie Smith
Tifton

Georgia Regional Hospital, Savannah
December 4, 2019
- Parade line up, 8:30 a.m.
  (National Guard Armory 1222 Eisenhower Drive, Savannah, GA 31406)
- Parade, 9:15 a.m.; Breakfast following parade 10:00 a.m
- Program at 11:00 a.m.

Chair
Mayor Ed Boyd
Metter

West Central Georgia Hospital, Columbus
December 5, 2019
- Program & Refreshments, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Chair
Mayor Randy Toms
Warner Robins

Georgia Regional Hospital, Atlanta
December 11, 2019
- Parade line up, 9:30 a.m.
- Parade, 10 a.m.
- Holiday Program & Lite Refreshments, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Chair
Mayor Clark Boddie
Palmetto

East Central Regional Hospital, Augusta
December 12, 2019
- Presentation of gifts, 9 a.m.
- Program, 10 a.m.

Chair
Mayor Greg Carswell
Waynesboro

What Is The Mayors' Christmas Motorcade?

GMA began the Mayors' Christmas Motorcade in 1959 at the request of Betty Vandiver, wife of then-Governor Ernest Vandiver, as a way of providing holiday gifts for the patients of Georgia's mental health hospitals.

Originally established to provide gifts to clients at Central State Hospital in Milledgeville, the program was expanded in the 1980's to support state regional hospitals.

Without the Mayors' Christmas Motorcade, many of the clients would not receive a gift for the holidays. The Christmas spirit demonstrated by cities during the Motorcade extends beyond the holiday season. Any gifts not handed out during Christmas are used for client birthdays or given to newly arrived clients, who may need basic items. In this way, cities help the hospitals celebrate special occasions year-round and help the hospitals meet the needs of their clients.

From **Mayor Julie Smith,** – Tifton, Statewide Chair



"The Mayors' Motorcade is a great way for our city officials to share the joy and hope of Christmas with some of those who are in great need but are often forgotten. I hope that all cities will participate in this meaningful program."

How Can Your City Help?

1. Identify a program coordinator, such as the fire department, police department or civic organization to coordinate this effort. Businesses, churches and civic groups in your city can participate.
2. Organize your fundraising activities early in the year to maximize exposure.
3. Share the news! GMA has provided you with press releases for your local media. Post your information at city hall or mail with utility bills. You can even post it on the city's Facebook page or tweet the message to let everyone know where the gift drop-location (city hall/fire station/etc.) will be.
4. Each hospital sets a time and day in early December for their event, which is when the gifts are delivered. This is a special occasion for both event participants and clients by serving refreshments and providing entertainment.

Christmas Wish List and Helpful Hints

All gifts should be new and unwrapped. No glass containers or objects with sharp edges, metal or strings.

Clothing: (M-4XL Women; M-3XL Men) Jeans or Pants, Sweaters, Shorts, Long sleeve polo shirts, gloves, rain coats, ponchos, hats. Baseball Caps (no metal) socks/underwear/sports bras.

Personal Care Items: Shampoo/Conditioner, body wash, bath powder, combs/brushes, make-up kits, deodorant (no aerosols or spray cans) toothpaste, body lotion, elastic hairbands (no metal pieces).

Miscellaneous: Stationary/Stamps, pens, markers, Movies (DVD, G, PG only) Board games, (no travel games or dice games, Wii Games (no violence or parental advisory) playing cards, puzzles, word search/crossword books.

Hospitals: Check payable to hospital; Note: patient benefit fund.







GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

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