

Contact: Haley Gorda
Communications & Marketing Manager
YWCA Princeton
hgorda@ywcaprinceton.org

YWCA Princeton Supporter Jill Jachera's St. Nicholas Project Provides Holiday Cheer for its 22nd Year

Princeton, NJ, December 17--Longtime community advocate Jill Jachera has been helping YWCA Princeton support local families during the holidays since 2000. Initially known as "YWCA Adopt-a-Family," the initiative was inspired by the kindness Jachera's husband's family received when he and his family immigrated from Cuba to the United States as a child. Jill has paid it forward with the help of local donors, businesses, and families that have made giving back part of their holiday traditions. In 2001, the annual toy and food drive was renamed "The St. Nicholas Project," in memory of her nephew, Nichols Nutile, who passed away unexpectedly.

"We're thankful to have the opportunity to make the holidays a less financially strenuous time as many families in our community continue to recover from another challenging year," said Tara O'Shea, YWCA Princeton's Director of Childcare. "We truly appreciate Jill Jachera and her family's continued support of our organization and the families we serve."

"This project is what Christmas is all about," shared Jill Jachera. "It could not be possible without our generous Santas who adopt these families and make their childrens' wishes come true. Many of our Santas have been involved in the project since the beginning, making it a part of their family's holiday tradition. I am grateful for their continued support."

Participating families create wish lists, including toys, clothes, and gift cards. Each year, local individuals, families, and businesses go above and beyond to fulfill these wishes, and provide gift cards to McCaffrey's Food Market and other additional donations.

YWCA Princeton extends its sincere gratitude to Jill Jachera and everyone who contributed to the 2021 St. Nicholas Project.

About YWCA Princeton

YWCA Princeton is #OnAMission to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. Programs at YWCA Princeton advance this

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mission by providing affordable and accessible services, from childcare and English as a second language, to a breast cancer resource center, young professional development board, and more. To learn more, visit <https://www.ywcaprinceton.org/about/mission-vision/>.