

Sandy Springs



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12/1/10



Adopt-a-Family, holiday baskets in full swing

By Noreen Lewis Cochran
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Special photo

From left, Debbie and Stan Sonenshine, the latter a board member of nonprofit Community Action Center, fulfill her birthday wish for a 'truckful of food' to donate to nonprofit consumers in Sandy Springs and Dunwoody.

Internet purchasing meets se philanthropy at the Sandy Sp nonprofit Community Action goal is to help Sandy Springs households have a merrier c

"We want to give every CAC faced a crisis in 2010 a holid; and the gift of choice with gr cards," nonprofit spokeswom Ristino said in a statement.

Residents can log onto the n to make convenient donator donor added elbow grease to contribution.

Sandy Springs resident and F Sonenshine helps Coldwell B; find homes by day and raises homelessness and hunger in — even on her birthday.

The community volunteer or; \$25,000 food drive for her 6i which Sonenshine said "a tru was her only gift request.

"Hopefully it will give the rec hope and make their holiday; brighter," she said in a statel Thanksgiving baskets for 50C consumers.

Sonenshine's big day, Nov. 7 than 100 family members an packing baskets into boxes ir retail space.

"I'm overwhelmed," she said surprised because our friend; community-minded and gene It's been just wonderful that

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parts of our life have come out to support us."

Food basket recipients also qualify for the nonprofit's Adopt-a-Family program.

"These families are experiencing crisis situations," Ristino said. "Many are at risk of becoming homeless because they lost a job or have serious medical situations."

More than half of the 630 children enrolled in the program still need to be "adopted," Ristino said.

The families are identified only by four-digit numbers including a mother and six boys whose father was deported, a single mother tending to four teenage Haitian earthquake orphans, a couple whose care of a 4-year-old nephew with leukemia is depleting their life savings.

"You can select families, shop and wrap gifts for the children with a \$50 maximum per child," Ristino said.

Gifts can be dropped off as early as 10 a.m. today and as late as 7 p.m. Dec. 14 for distribution on Dec. 18.

Information: (770) 552-4889 or visit www.ourcac.org.



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