2015 MAYORS' COMMISSIONERS CHRISTMAS MOTORCADE



"I'm excited to join others across Georgia in bringing cheer to those in need." Mayor Robert Reichert



"This is a perfect time to give and a great opportunity to help others." Commissioner Al Tillman



The Georgia Municipal Association began the Christmas Motorcade in 1958 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 and regional hospitals.

Without the 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.

Your generous donations will make Christmas dreams come true!

Donations of wrapping paper, ribbons and bows are also needed. Cash donations are welcome! Checks should be made payable to: "Macon-Bibb County Georgia," and we will give one COMBINED check from all of us!

All donations need to be received on or before November 27, 2015. Donation items can be dropped off in the Government Center Commission Chambers (700 Poplar Street) and checks should be given to Ms. Sharon Juhan (478-803-2498).

2015 Mayors' Christmas Motorcade Gift List Example (Please remember most patients are adults)

Our Typical Consumer:

- Males/Females = 61%/39%
- Average Age is 39
- Caucasian, African American

Clothing:

(Med-4XL Women; Med – 3XL Men) Jeans/Pants T-shirts (No alcohol/drug references, inappropriate language) Sweaters Shorts Long sleeve Polo shirts Gloves Winter Hats Baseball Caps (No Metal) Socks/Underwear/Bras (No Underwire) Sports Bras Pajamas (men & women) Slippers / Shower Shoes

Miscellaneous Gifts:

Drawing pads/Composition Books (No Wire Bound) Stationary Radios (No antennas, no hanging straps) Playing Cards Calling Cards Puzzles Word Search/Crossword books Watches (No Metal) Wallets (men 7 women – no metal zippers)

Snack Items:

Individually wrapped candy Individually wrapped snack cakes /cookies **No Gum Please**

Personal Care Items:

Shampoo/Conditioner Body Wash Deodorant (No Aerosol or Spray Cans) Toothpaste Body Lotion Shaving Cream Elastic Hairbands (No Metal Pieces)

Unit/Programming Items:

Movies (DVD; G, PG only) Compact Discs (No Parental Advisory) Paperback Books (No Romance Themes. Multicultural books welcome) Board games (No travel games, no games with dice) Crayons/Markers (Thick markers only, No colored pencils) WII Games (No violence or Parental Advisory) Manicure items – nail polish, nail art pens, polish remover (No acetone)

Giftwrapping Items:

Gift Bags Gift tissue paper Christmas Cards Christmas Bows Christmas Ribbon (No wrapping paper)