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PRESS RELEASE

For Release: Toys for Tots Gift Drive Wednesday, 6 December 2023

BMA Toys for Tots Gift Drive Brings the Holidays to Families in Need

HAMILTON, BERMUDA – A staff gift drive at the Bermuda Monetary Authority (Authority or BMA) has collected more than 100 toys for children benefiting from the annual Toys for Tots programme operated by the charity the Coalition for the Protection of Children (CPC). The donations will be distributed to families with the greatest need and include over 30 grocery and gift vouchers. The BMA has supported the Toys for Tots initiative on several occasions and decided to partner with the charity once again this year to support its goal of collecting 2,500 items for children and families in need this holiday season.

Kelly Hunt, Executive Director of the Coalition for the Protection of Children said, "The unfortunate reality is that toys and necessities are more expensive than ever before. The last several years have been very stressful for those families who are struggling to make ends meet. We want to thank the BMA for contributing so generously as an important supporter of this initiative. We are grateful to them for bringing some relief and joy to families in need."

In response, the BMA invited its staff to drop off items during a two-week donation drive. "We have seen time and time again how much our BMA staff care about the well-being of our community and the most vulnerable among us," said Mesheiah Crockwell, Director of Human Resources at the BMA. This time of the year is special and provides us with an opportunity to spread joy in our communities. The BMA takes pride in our support for the Toys for Tots programme, and this holiday season, the level of generosity from our staff has exceeded our expectations."

This year's toy donation drive is part of an annual focus on charitable giving. The BMA regularly encourages its more than 240 employees to participate in community-based philanthropic initiatives year-round. Past initiatives include assisting with fundraising events and hands-on work that has helped a range of Bermuda charities. To learn more about the Bermuda Monetary Authority's charitable initiatives, visit our Community and Culture Page: <u>https://www.bma.bm/community</u>.

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