



## HISTORY OF THE SURTEC ADOPT - A - FAMILY PROGRAM

The Surtec Adopt A Family Program was founded by Bill Fields in 1991 to provide a happier Christmas to children of needy families in the Bay Area, Tri-Valley and Central Valley areas. The entire program consists of a group of volunteers who have animated Christmas for children of needy families by providing extra large food boxes and personally wrapped gifts for each child. All of the food and gifts are delivered personally by our volunteers on the Saturday before Christmas.

The average cost for the food baskets and gifts for each family is approximately \$200.00. All of the children receive Christmas gifts, personally chosen for their age group and gender, wrapped with personalized name tags stating "To: Sally Jones" from the Surtec Adopt a Family program.

One of the main requirements of this program is that there will be **no administrative costs** taken from the project, all of the help is on a volunteer basis and **all funds and goods go directly to the needy families.**

The names of needy families are obtained through various churches, school districts and community service organizations. These organizations **screen the families to assure us that they are truly needy** and the selection of the families and children are not based on any specific religion or race. The only requirement is that they are truly needy families **with children.**

The project has continued to grow each year with volunteer help, and donations of money and goods. The record of accomplishment is as follows:

1991	31 families	114 children	2005	311 families	803 children
1992	103 families	317 children	2006	320 families	910 children
1993	151 families	399 children	2007	320 families	935 children
1994	170 families	500 children	2008	320 families	900 children
1995	203 families	580 children	2009	350 families	950 children
1996	212 families	605 children	2010	340 families	956 children
1997	228 families	682 children	2011	341 families	962 children
1998	222 families	643 children	2012	300 families	813 children
1999	220 families	675 children	2013	340 families	954 children
2000	243 families	716 children	2014	300 families	805 children
2001	270 families	760 children	2015	400 families	1,108 children
2002	287 families	836 children	2016	396 families	1,071 children
2003	306 families	963 children	2017	383 families	1,014 children
2004	303 families	837 children	2018	392 families	1,024 children

The total numbers that we have provided for to date are: **7,762 families**      **21,832 children**

The entire project is manned with volunteer help and all money raised comes primarily from our annual golf tournament and donations made by individuals and companies adopting a family or more. Volunteers do all the shopping for food and gifts and the wrapping of these gifts and delivering them directly to the families. Donated warehouse space is also provided to accomplish this goal.

On the Saturday prior to Christmas, all of the food baskets and gifts are delivered directly to the families by Adopt-A-Family volunteers. Many of the delivery volunteers return after their deliveries to share heart warming stories and the responses of the unexpecting children that are overwhelmed by the food and gifts that have been provided for their families. We also receive many "thank you" letters from these families that bring tears to our eyes.

Providing a happier Christmas to these children that they may not have had without our project, is what makes the entire effort worthwhile.

All the money in the world cannot buy the satisfaction that we receive by seeing the glow on the face of a child when they realize that someone cares enough to provide this holiday package of food and gifts for them and their family.

***Your participation in our project is most appreciated.  
Send donations to the above address made payable to Surtec Adopt A Family, Inc.  
And contact us if you want to donate your time***

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