

Santa Clothes Helps Over 300 Underprivileged Las Vegas Children

For the past 19 years, the Las Vegas Rotary Club has supported hundreds of disadvantaged children in Las Vegas through a project known as *Santa Clothes*. On the first Thursday in December, Rotarians and Interact Club members (comprising high school students) take over 300 underprivileged children shopping for essential clothing and shoes at three J.C. Penney stores.

Sharon McNair, President of McNair & Associates, is a current member and former president of the Las Vegas Rotary Club. Each year, Sharon and her team contribute their time by collaborating closely with J.C. Penney cashiers to ensure each child receives \$200 worth of clothing and shoes provided by *Santa Clothes*. After an engaging day of shopping, the children are transported to UNLV where they enjoy a pizza party, receive a Christmas gift, and have the opportunity to hear a UNLV coach speak on the importance of obtaining a good education.

Sharon expresses the significance of *Santa Clothes* to her entire staff, stating, "It is a profoundly rewarding experience to be part of such a meaningful cause and to witness the joy on the children's faces. The entire McNair & Associates team is delighted to participate in *Santa Clothes* and feels it is the ideal way to celebrate the holiday season."

Despite the fact that over 300 underprivileged children benefit from this initiative, many more remain in need throughout Las Vegas and the state of Nevada. Recent statistics from the Children's Defense Fund indicate that 24% of Nevadan youth (totalling 156,523 children) live in poverty, exceeding the national average. According to a 2014 Kids Count report, the number of children in Nevada living in poverty has increased by 8.4% since 2007.

With numerous children striving to meet their basic needs, *Santa Clothes* and similar charitable projects serve as invaluable support for those in need within our communities. Whether volunteering at a soup kitchen, donating to a toy drive, or offering time to those seeking assistance, giving back is an excellent way to embrace the holiday spirit.

From our family to yours, McNair & Associates wish you a happy and safe holiday season!