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Contact: Jim Zumpone The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™ (570) 390-7066



<u>TheHolidayToyDrive@ZipperJunction.org</u>

THE HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE FOR WAYNE & PIKE COUNTIES BEGINS OCTOBER 1ST

THE HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE, now in its 6th year, brought to you by The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™ is once again in partnership with "The Wayne County Ford & Bold Gold Media Holiday Toy Drive Challenge". This year THE HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE is excited to join forces with the Wallenpaupack Area School District, providing an opportunity for mentoring, hands-on experience and the power of community contribution, all in alignment with the mission of The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™. THE HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE has the support of Wayne and Pike County officials, businesses, other school districts and toy drives. Together, they will strive to ensure that children in need, residing in Wayne and Pike Counties, are served by this local community effort.

"We look forward to collecting tons of toys this year. However, based on what we've learned from previous years, monetary donations are needed and would be greatly appreciated to make sure the full spectrum of age categories have appropriate gifts", said Jim Zumpone, Chief Visionary and Founder of The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™.

In addition to their main sponsor, "The Wayne County Ford & Bold Gold Media Holiday Toy Drive Challenge", The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™ hopes to again partner with individuals and businesses who will host their own events that will help generate toy and monetary donations. Some examples include Bring-A-Toy for free entry to an event; birthday parties or family events; Stuff a Truck, Tractor, Jeep or Train; Pictures with Santa; or a single or multi business toy collection event like the giant red mailboxes at both *The CAR WASH On Route 6* & *The CAR WASH on Hamlin Hwy*. Some partners use an official Collection Box onsite at their events with all proceeds, both monetary and in the box, donated to **THE HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE.** Donations will also be accepted at the train stations during *The Stourbridge Line Santa Express* excursions. The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™ is always looking for new event ideas to fill Collection Boxes and/or provide funds.

Everyone is encouraged to visit <u>www.ZipperJunction.org</u> and click on the official logo of the Truck carrying the Big Bag of Toys. <u>Toy request applications can be submitted online from **October 1**st **through 31**st.</u>

Anyone interested in making a **Monetary Donation**, becoming a **Sponsor**, or to **Be a Toy Drop-Off Site** or **Event Partner** can also visit the website for details. Toy and Gift donations can be made at the many Toy Drop-Off Sites hosting collection boxes from **November 1**st **through 30**th; all locations will be listed on the website. Additionally, Toy and Gift donations can be made at Wayne County Ford in Honesdale during "The Wayne County Ford & Bold Gold Media Holiday Toy Drive Challenge" which runs from **November 1**st **through December 5**th. When donating, be sure to look for the official logo.

About The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™

The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™ is a local non-profit organization made up of a unique and diverse group of individuals who are motivated by the common belief that we can do better as a community through hands on experiences and project based learning. We are driven to bring a place called ZIPPER JUNCTION™ to life. Helping someone learn how to live a self-sustaining life by discovering and using their passion is the single most important thing, and this is to be supported and cultivated. Our mission is crafted around **Leveraging Skills**, **Igniting Passions**, and **Building Futures**. To read more about The ZIPPER JUNCTION Project™, please visit www.ZipperJunction.org.