



St. George Fire Protection District

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MEDIA RELEASE

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St. George Santa Parades Collected Record Amount of Food

This year's St. George Santa Parades were a huge success. The public involvement in contributing to our partner organizations, The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank and Christmas for Challenged Children, and the good will expressed to our firefighters is very heartwarming.

Records of the amount of food collected go back to 2004, when a total of 3,872 pounds of food were donated. By 2007, the poundage was up to 10,253. Last year, despite some rain, our Citizens contributed 12,804 pounds of food for the needy. I got an email this morning from our main contact person at the Food Bank, and the 2010 Santa Parade total was 19,508 pounds of food and \$1,219.55 of monetary contributions.

Although the number of toys donated is not as accurately tallied, we are told by our partner agency that the St. George Santa Parades and other efforts on behalf of St. George account for about half of the total toys distributed to 550 children served by Christmas for Challenged Children this year.

We are very proud of both these levels of contributions; not of ourselves, but of the Public we serve. In these troubled times, the Citizens of our District met a very real challenge and surpassed anyone's expectations of their generosity. We thank them for that, and for helping us spread the word of the Santa Parades within their neighborhoods and among their friends.