

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Toy Drive “Give a Smile,” an Initiative of Cultural Awareness Fund, Inc., Collects Gifts for Local Children

Ormond Beach, FL — January 17, 2026 — Cultural Awareness Fund, Inc. announced the successful launch of Give a Smile, a holiday giving initiative created to support children and families in need throughout the region during the holiday season.

The initiative began at an annual holiday gathering, where guests were asked to bring an unwrapped gift for a boy or a girl. The response exceeded expectations, resulting in a significant collection of toys in a single evening.

Encouraged by the strong community response, Sanchez expanded the effort by partnering with local media to increase awareness and participation. With the support of WROD and radio host Frank Scott, public service announcements were produced and aired throughout the Ormond Beach, Daytona Beach, and Port Orange area in support of the initiative.

All donated toys were distributed to two organizations serving children and families in need: St. Paul’s Basilica in Daytona Beach and the Volusia Sheriff’s Youth Foundation.

St. Paul’s Basilica has a longstanding tradition of community outreach and charitable service, providing direct support to families through faith-based programs and seasonal initiatives that serve some of the area’s most vulnerable populations.

The donation to the Volusia Sheriff’s Youth Foundation was coordinated through liaison efforts with Carla Quann from the office of Michael Chitwood. The Foundation supports youth-focused programs that promote safety, mentorship, and positive development for at-risk children throughout the region.

At St. Paul’s Basilica, toys were distributed on the final day of the Christmas Novena, with remaining gifts given during the January 6 Three Kings Day celebration.

“These gifts represent more than toys,” Sanchez said. “They reflect generosity, kindness, and what can be accomplished when people come together with purpose. I’m grateful to everyone who participated and helped make this initiative possible.”

The Give a Smile initiative was conducted as a regional effort, supported by community members, local businesses, and media partners who helped extend its reach and impact.

Looking ahead, Sanchez announced that Give a Smile will return for Easter, when Cultural Awareness Fund, Inc. will once again mobilize the community—this time to distribute Easter baskets to disadvantaged children across the region.

Sanchez expressed sincere appreciation to all donors, volunteers, partners, and supporters who contributed to the success of the program.

For more information about Cultural Awareness Fund, Inc. and its initiatives, please visit www.culturalawarenessfund.com.

Media Contact:

William J Sanchez

Executive Director, President

Cultural Awareness Fund, Inc.

786/942-4449

william@culturalawarenessfund.com