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Press Release

BIA Cares
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BIA CARES HOLIDAY BIKE DRIVE EXCEEDS LAST YEAR AND DONATES 400 BIKES IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY.

BIA Cares, the charitable foundation of the Building Industry Association of San Diego County donated 400 bicycles during its "2011 BIA Cares Holiday Bike Drive;" one hundred more than last year. Monies were raised from individual BIA members and BIA related firms. Bikes were given to under privileged children in San Diego County in 18 different charities and toy drives.

Eric Jones of Urban Real Estate Services and Mark McMillin of The Corky McMillin Companies established the annual bike drive in 1995. Over the years, BIA Cares has provided bikes to more than 6,500 children and to 65 different charities in San Diego.

"We're so pleased with the monies raised this year in a down economy. We have touched so many different children's lives with the one item a kid always wants for Christmas, a bike! Our BIA members each year donate their money, time, labor and trucks to get the bikes out to each and every charity. We make sure each child gets paired up with the proper bike. Walmart has been our ongoing community partner by assembling the bikes we purchase. Its very rewarding to see the joy on the children's' faces who receive the bikes," says Eric Jones, Chairman of the BIA Cares Bike Drive.

This years recipients included: Pro Kids Golf Academy & Learning Center, United Cerebral Palsy, SD Center for Community Solutions, County of SD Foster Care Program, Voices for Children, Promises to Kids, Channel 7/39 NBC Toys for Tots, KUSI Toy Drive, Channel 10 Toy Drive, It's All About the Kids Foundation, SD Family Justice

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Center Camp Hope, Marines Families Overseas Program, San Pasqual Academy, SD Center for Children.

BIA Cares, now celebrating twenty-two years of giving, has raised more than \$3.1 million for local charities. The foundation helps to build better communities by sponsoring such projects as a children's play facility for an adult education center, awarding scholarships to high school and college students, sponsoring severely burned children at summer camp, building a golf facility for inner city youth and donating to organizations that assist the underprivileged throughout the county. For more information on BIA Cares, and to submit a request for funding, please visit www.biacares.org.

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Photo Caption:

BIA Cares individual members and related firms exceeded last years Holiday Bike Drive donations and were able to donate 100 more bicycles to under privileged children in San Diego County, raising the 2011 donation to 400 bicycles.