

SWIS District 2004 – 2005 Community Project Archives (CPA)

Project Type OI OFFICIAL YOUTH (NOT OFFICIAL) COMMUNITY
(Circle OR Underline) (Oratorical, Essay, Etc.)

FUND RAISER FELLOWSHIP

CONTACT INFORMATION:

(If using WORD for entry, Click in Club Name Box, use down arrow to move down through fields)

CLUB NAME/NUMBER

Platteville/09137

COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Howard Crofoot

EMAIL:

crofooth@platteville.org

TELEPHONE:

(Include area code)

(608) 348-9741 (W)

PROJECT NAME:

Santa Calling

NO. OF PEOPLE SERVED

103

NO. OF OPTIMISTS REQUIRED:

9

Double click on the box and you will get a small spreadsheet. Use positive numbers in both the income and expense area. The total will subtract the two. Click anywhere outside the box when you are done.

BUDGET:	INCOME:	\$0.00
	EXPENSES:	\$0.00
	TOTAL:	\$0.00

PROJECT SUMMARY: This is a cooperative effort between the City Parks & Recreation Department & the Platteville Optimist Club. We generally select the 2nd week in December, Tues – Thurs nights from 6 – 8 PM to “assist Santa or Mrs. Claus” in making phone calls to good boys & girls in Platteville.

The Recreation Department has a form that goes to kids in Pre K to 2nd grade public schools to take home. There are copies of the form at city hall. The forms are filled out by parents who turn them in to City Hall. The forms have the child’s name, address, phone number, best date and time for the call, and personal information (age, name of school & teacher, names of siblings, pets & friends, etc.) It has space for gifts the child may want, good behavior for Santa to praise (doing well in school) and other behaviors to encourage (stop fighting with brother, pick up toys). Parks & Recreation staff sort the forms by day to help figure out how many are needed on each night.

Project Summary CONTINUED, if needed:

Optimist volunteers play Santa or Mrs. Claus and use the forms to call the child and talk to them about Christmas. In Platteville they use phones in City Hall. Ask if they are good, etc. Use the information on the sheet to convince them it really is Santa or Mrs. Claus by asking about favorite pets, teacher, etc. Ask what they want for Christmas, but never promise toys. Praise them for good behavior & ask them to do what parents wrote on the sheet – or a generic “be good”. End conversation with excuse to feed reindeer, make cookies for Santa, etc.

Sometimes Santa’s helpers provide milk & cookies for Santa & Mrs. Claus to get in the mood. The stories are precious. Kids are amazed at the knowledge of Santa. Some are shy, others talk a lot. Some older ones get skeptical – “Is this Uncle Bill?” Parents enjoy watching the kids talk to Santa.

Santa or Mrs. Claus can usually make 10 – 12 calls an hour. There will be some call backs to account for. This is a nice project with little funds required. If the City did not provide assistance, any costs would be for printing and distributing forms.