

History

Austin Police Operation Blue Santa has been a program for the Austin Police Department since 1972. This charitable outreach began when two patrol officers realized that some families on their patrol beat would not have gifts or food for their children at Christmas.

What began with gift distributions to 20 families from the back of a patrol car has become a massive effort in partnership with the Texas National Guard, the Austin Fire Department and Austin Parks and Recreation.

Each year, *Austin Police Operation Blue Santa* serves more than 3,800 families, with 15,000 children in those families receiving gifts. The community is generous in their support, contributing to many events, including the Chuy's Children Giving to Children Parade, held the Saturday after Thanksgiving each year. All the toys collected during the parade are donated to *Austin Police Operation Blue Santa*.



Austin Police Operation Blue Santa

provides toys and
food for families
in need during the
holiday season.

Donate or
Volunteer Today



Updated July 2010

We Need Your Help!

Our Mission

The mission of the *Austin Police Operation Blue Santa* is to provide toys and food for families in need during the Holiday Season. We achieve this goal with the goodwill and support of Austin residents, businesses, and civic groups. Through generous contributions, we provide families with a full holiday meal and toys for each child up to the age of 14. Packages are delivered to the family by our volunteers – Santa’s Helpers.

Austin Police Operation Blue Santa is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community-based corporation, governed by a board of directors and staffed by volunteers and employees of the Austin Police Department. Support is provided by the Austin Police Department, the Texas National Guard, the Austin Fire Department, Austin Parks and Recreation Department, area businesses, organizations, and the Central Texas community.

We gladly accept the following:

- Donations by cash, check or credit card
- Non-perishable food items
- Unwrapped new toys (no weapon type toys please)
- In-kind services

All donations are tax-deductible.

Donations may be dropped off at any Austin Fire Station and other locations listed on our website.

Web-site: www.bluesanta.org

Headquarters location:

Austin Police
Operation Blue Santa
4101 South Industrial Drive #260
Austin, TX 78744

Mailing Address:

Austin Police
Operation Blue Santa
P. O. Box 689001
Austin, TX 78768-9001

Come Join Us!

Austin Police Operation Blue Santa opens its doors to welcome volunteers each year beginning the first week after Thanksgiving. Individuals who wish to help sort and package gifts may drop in at their convenience during the hours of operation listed on the web-site (www.bluesanta.org). Groups of 8 or more are also welcome and are asked to reserve a time slot in advance.

All deliveries are made on the Saturday before Christmas. On that day volunteers begin lining up in their vehicles at 8:00 a.m. to pick up packages to be delivered to their designated families who anxiously await their arrival.

For more information, please call
974-BLUE (974-2583)