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Giving Back to the Community One Penny at a Time *Colton Children Collect Pennies for Children's Charities*

(San Bernardino, CA) Earlier this year, children from the Kids Club at the Parkside Pine Housing Community in Colton started a campaign titled "Thoughtful Pennies" as a way to give back to the community. They organize a campaign every three months and donate to various children based organizations and charities of their choice.

At the end of April, after collecting pennies for three months and raising \$22, the children donated the money to Rupert's Kids. Rupert's kids is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower youth to discover their inner strengths, realize their own self worth and recognize their value to society. As a thank you, the children received a letter and signed autographed picture from Mr. Rupert.

Following the Rupert's Kids campaign, the children decided to collect pennies for the St. Jude's Children's Hospital and collected \$26.22. For the upcoming three month campaign, the children decided to collect pennies for the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

"The kids are so excited and have really accomplished a great deal with this," states Wendy Moscorro, Recreational Aide at Colton. As the children stated: "It's a way to give to others besides ourselves."

The kids collect pennies by: doing chores for their parents, taking money from their own "piggy" banks, collecting pennies they found on the street, and asking their parents for the pennies from the change at the grocery store.

"The children decided to start this campaign because they recognize the value and need in giving back to the community. We can all learn from their actions," states Susan Benner, Executive Director for the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino (HACSB). She continues, "These wonderful children are a true inspiration and representation of HACSB's Vision to create a world in which all people have a stable and enriched quality of life."

Thank you all for helping the community and good luck in your future campaigns!

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The Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino is one of the largest public housing agencies in California, providing the critical resource of housing to a clientele of which the majority are seniors, persons with disabilities and children. From providing housing and home ownership, to job training and childcare, the Housing Authority helps tens of thousands of people to elevate their lives every day. For more information on the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino, please visit www.hacsb.com.