



Dr. Lydia Furnari, Superintendent  
Green Hills School  
69 Mackerly Road  
Greendell, NJ 07839

Dear Dr. Furnari,

Congratulations! Your school has been certified the Third-Place winner of the Stuff the Stocking Challenge. This means you have earned \$100 to be used toward your school's student activity fund. It also means your faculty, students, and families are extraordinarily kind and generous. Your school is to be commended for creating an atmosphere where care for one's neighbors and one's community is nurtured and celebrated.

Because of your kindness, 2,300 children in Northwest New Jersey woke up this Christmas morning to gifts. The gifts I refer to are not just the toys they unwrapped. The intangible and unseen gifts these children and their parents received are just as important, and will last a lot longer. The feeling that someone out there cares about them. The feeling of belonging to a community. The memory of reaching out for help and being met with compassion. These are gifts that will follow them throughout their lives and inspire hope to make positive changes for the future.

Putting toys in the hands of children is just one of the goals of Season of Hope. We do this because we don't want any child in our community to feel left out and unloved during this time of celebration. We also do it so that families who are struggling but too afraid or embarrassed to ask for help can take that first step. Once they have come to Project Self-Sufficiency to register and shop, the process of getting help becomes less intimidating. They know where to go and what resources are available. They know they will be greeted with respect and kindness. And most of all, they know it is not just Project Self-Sufficiency that wants them to succeed – their whole community stands behind them.

A big thank you to everyone at Green Hills School for showing such generosity and community spirit in the Stuff the Stocking Challenge. You have made a difference in the lives of your neighbors and inspired us all with your spirit of giving.

With Gratitude,

Deborah Berry-Toon, MSW  
Executive Director