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“Beary” Special Gifts Arrive at Windfall School

Medina, Ohio, December 18, 2017 – Students at the Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities’ (MCBDD) Windfall School have some new furry friends, thanks to Medina County Probate Judge Kevin Dunn, his staff and members of the Medina Sunrise Rotary. On Tuesday, December 12, Judge Dunn along with several Probate Court employees and Rotary club members handed out Build-A-Bear teddy bears to students at Windfall School.

These “beary” thoughtful gifts were provided through a Probate Court project that helps local youth fulfill their court-ordered community service time while showing them how they can have a positive impact on their community. The program, started in 2007, is funded in part through the Rotary club and community donations and this year provided over 40 bears to preschool and elementary school aged children who attend Windfall School. The bears arrived from the Strongsville Build-A-Bear store last month for a special assembly night. They were already filled with fluff, but needed to have their trademark hearts added and be dressed in sports, princess and movie-themed outfits. Volunteers and participants then packed each bear and prepared them to be delivered into the arms of a special child.

“It’s so fantastic to see our students’ faces light up and we thank Judge Dunn and the court staff and volunteers for making this generous event possible each year,” said Dr. Kaye Stanley-Bryson, Director of Children’s Services for MCBDD.

Judge Dunn and his staff visited several classrooms during his visit to help students remove their new bear friends from their carrying bags and boxes. Each bear was dressed in its own unique outfit, complete with shoes and accessories.

“The kids here are just fantastic. We all know that little kids are fun, but when you're a big kid like me, it's even more fun,” said Judge Dunn. “For me and my staff, this is one of our favorite days of the year.”

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Photos included:

MCBDD Bears 2017 (4) – Windfall Preschool student Freedom Kizito, hugs a new bear friend he received as part of this year’s Build-A-Bear giveaway from Medina County Probate Judge Kevin Dunn.

MCBDD Bears 2017 - Sheila Shuttera (l), Medina County Probate Court Community Service Senior Supervisor, helps Windfall School student Noah Carpenter (r) open his Build-A-Bear gift during the annual giveaway from Judge Kevin Dunn.

Judge Dunn MCBDD 2017 (2) – Judge Kevin Dunn (r) helps Windfall Preschool student Emma Baciak (l) unpack and meet her new bear friend.

About MCBDD

MCBDD is the lifeline which connects individuals to the resources in the county, everything from residential services and employment, to funding sources and therapy services. The mission of the Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to promote and empower over 1250 individuals with developmental disabilities, from birth to death, to live, learn, work and socialize as citizens in the community.