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### **Gladstone pulls together on holiday giving**

To help struggling community members have a happier holiday season, several Gladstone groups came together on a citywide Adopt-a-Family effort. Saturday they will deliver food, toys, and books to 124 Gladstone families.

“Each partner organization helped with a different piece of the puzzle, from food and toy drives to fundraising and free books,” said Gladstone High Vice Principal Patti Alexander. “The best part has been having this opportunity to work side-by-side to help our neighbors.”

Partners included the Gladstone Fire Department, Kiwanis, Gladstone/Oak Grove Rotary, the Gladstone Police Department, The Clackamas Bookshelf, and Gladstone Schools.

“I’ve been impressed how much smart work Gladstone High students did to sort and bundle donations,” said Gladstone fire fighter Izaak Thoman, a lead organizer of the effort. “It’s clear how much they care.”

**#1 PHOTO CAPTION: Gladstone High junior Grace Sovey sorts donated toys and books.**

**#2 Photo caption: Gladstone High sophomore Stephanie Brant calculates how many boxes can be filled with food donations.**

**#3 PHOTO CAPTION: Adopt-a-Family project leader Izaak Thoman, a fire fighter, loads food boxes that will bring holiday cheer to Gladstone families.**