

## *A Tale of Giving*

*"Whatever the tradition this time of year, the goal remains the same, and that is to bring joy and good will to those less fortunate or too young to do for themselves. And in the giving, we discover that offering our hearts to others brings the greatest joy of all."*

In these tough economic times, the team of employees and management at Auto/Mate Dealership Systems, located in Clifton Park N.Y., banded together in true holiday spirit. Employee contributions, matched by the Auto/Mate corporation, benefited needy families identified by Clover Patch Pre-school, a division of the Center for Disability Services.

This marks the second year for this tradition. The first year, originally two families were adopted but employee donations exceeded expectations so gifts were purchased for a third family. This year, a total of four families were adopted.

Wish list items ranged from toys and books to essential items like coats, boots, socks, clothing, even bedding, diapers and pots / pans for the parents. After all wish list items were bought, gift cards were purchased or donated for food and other essential items.

Employee donations didn't simply include monetary contributions but hours of tireless shopping to find *just the right gift*. Employees organized into teams, and later gathered to wrap all the presents!



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Sentiments about this activity ranged from it's the least I could do, to it's such a great feeling to give to those less fortunate than yourself knowing that you will make children "light up." "It gives people a heartwarming feeling and brings us together as a little community."



Another shared... "I always look for ways to help other people, even if it's something small. That's what we're all supposed to do anyway right? It's like mom always said...treat others as you want to be treated."

Peace and happiness to all!



*Auto/Mate Dealership Systems, designed by former auto dealer executives, was established 25 years ago with a simple goal: to provide an efficient and reasonably priced computer system for car dealers.*