



# Caring, Supporting & Protecting across the States

## North America

**Stork North America may be widely spread out across 45 sites in 20 different states but the site teams and employees are deeply connected to their communities and their individual unique causes.**

### **RISE CITY KIDS with Joshua Pontsler, California**

I've had a great career working in the engineering field but my degree and passion has always been in theatre arts, specifically in the teaching and mentorship of youth in the arts. Leading up to the global pandemic, my wife and I had a combined 30+ years of working with youth in San Diego County as teachers, directors, program coordinators, and even created a program to use arts as a form of therapy with a county sponsored foster program for high-risk foster teens. We were approached to help start a theatre performance program at Rise City Church in Lakeside, CA. Working with Church leadership for 10 weeks setting up auditions, rehearsals, performances and show plans, the first ever Rise City Kids Theatre performance production was brought to life. Through volunteering with these kids and their families, my wife and I have been able to continue to cultivate the importance and benefits of arts education for California youth and for the community as a whole.

### **Supporting Education & School Communities**

**SunCoke HHO Site in Haverhill, Ohio:** School supplies were delivered to local **Green Local School Deaf Program**, impacting an often-overlooked niche group of students.

**CSP Site Support Team in Greenville, South Carolina:** Emily Cargill serves her son's elementary school, **A. J. Whittenberg School of Engineering**, as the Co-Chair of the School Improvement Council (SIC). Emily and her son, Baker, helped coordinate a **uniform drive**, recycling and reusing school uniforms and getting them into the hands of growing 'engineers' (as the students are called). Emily also helps with the school's **Share the Love Food Drive** which encouraged kids to bring in goods for the community as well as share kind words and gratitude. She led the 4<sup>th</sup> graders in Stork-sponsored **Engineering Week activities** focused on kinetic/potential energy and closed circuits. She also donated new and repurposed supplies to be used in the **4<sup>th</sup> grade solar system project**.





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### Meeting a Need for Kids & Families In-Need

**Alcoa Warrick Site in Newburgh, Indiana:** In partnership with the client and contractors, the Stork O&M team coordinates a large money collection and shopping day for the **Holiday Toy Town** campaign.

**BMW Site in Greenville, South Carolina:** Raised more than **\$2,000 for the renovation of a U.S. Vietnam Veteran's home**, partnering with local charity Emmanuel's Hammer. Donations and volunteer hours went towards repairing a leaky roof, internal ceiling damage, and a complete remodel of his bathroom.

**Stork Sugarland Texas Team:** The facilities maintenance team serving the Stork office collected and shipped **20 care packages to U.S. Marine Corps** forces fighting in the Middle East, providing a boost of morale and tastes and treats from home 20 care packages containing items like toiletries, personal care, games, magazines, snacks, and protein products.

**General Mills Site in Murfreesboro, Tennessee:** On September 18, 2021, Jim Hartman, Executive Director for Stork North America, joined Stork O&M employees to participate in the **13th Annual "Hammer Down for Habitat"** Poker Run fund raiser for the local Rutherford County Habitat for Humanity organization. At this event, motorcycles, cars, and runners raise funds to build a Habitat house for a family in need. The event includes a 95-mile motorcycle and car drive through beautiful Tennessee countryside as well as a 26.2-mile marathon relay run, all ending up at Hop Springs Beer Park in Murfreesboro for poker prizes, lunch and entertainment.

**Graphic Packaging Site in Texarkana, Texas:** Children and families in need in the Texas/Arkansas area around the paper mill were blessed by the generous donations of toys/goods in the **Toys for Tots drive**, food and staples in the **Harvest Texarkana food drive**, and Christmas wish lists were granted in partnership with the client through the **Angel Tree** project.

**Logan Site in Russellville, Kentucky:** When tornados ravaged Bowling Green, Kentucky over the Christmas and New Years holiday, Sean Ashley worked with his church group to **help demolish and rebuild storm-torn homes** and also worked to collect and donate goods to affected the families.

**Procter & Gamble Site in Dover, Delaware:** Sharing the blessings of the season, the site team led a **Thanksgiving turkey and canned food drive** followed by collections for the **Toys for Tots** at Christmas.

**Procter & Gamble Site in Lima, Ohio:** The site teams collected a haul of toys and goods for local children through **Toys for Tots**.

**SunCoke JWO Site in Oakbrook, Virginia:** Donated **\$300 worth of fishing poles and accessories** to kids in need in Honaker, VA's "Kids Day" events. Adopted **9 local Buchanan County kids** through Gingerbread Christmas and **6 local Tazewell, VA kids** through Angles on a Tree program and **fulfilled their holiday wish lists** of clothes, toys, and other needs. Honaker "Kids Day" fishing event in May, \$300 worth of fishing poles and accessories were donated to the less fortunate children from Stork for this event.



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### SHIRTS OFF OUR BACKS with Randy Sanchez, California

The 'Shirts Off Our Backs' drive officially started 11 years ago in 2010 at a hospital maintenance shop.

I was a teenager growing up in a poor neighborhood where we had a large homeless population. Every time I got a new pair of shoes, I would walk across the street to a nearby park and see if anyone would like my old pair of sneakers and from that grew to blankets and extra food we had from a family event the day before.

One day something clicked in my head in my late 20s that we, our maintenance department, could make a bigger impact if we all got together and donated older gently worn clothes. San Diego has a huge homeless population and there are so many veterans that has served our country living in our streets. Regardless of how or why they got to this point in life, we have to help them and let them know that their community cares.

Fast forward to now, I am working with Stork and my Site Manager, Mark Beckelman, has been nothing but supportive with this charity. We are collecting truckloads of clothes, handing out survival kits (wipes, soap feminine products, etc) 500+ bottles of water and making over 200 sandwiches for our local and Mexican population in need. During COVID lockdown, we donated to a shelter but this year we are happy to get back out to the streets of San Diego and Mexicali, Mexico face-to-face again.

In Mexicali, we also collect toys and blankets for the children living in makeshift houses out in the outer regions of the city where they live with little to no money, food or toys.

I raise money by buying tools, grills, appliances and even electronics like big screen TVs to raffle off during the Holidays. This not only helps raise money, but it's a morale booster and strengthens the team to get together before the holiday break to have some fun winning prizes and helping families in need.







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### #OperationSocialDistanceCitrus with Mark Beckelman, California

With the pandemic-fueled lockdown, I could not help but see the contrast between my situation and my neighbors.

Our local school district had recently published numbers indicating that 1 in 4 students in our district schools lived below the poverty line, and for many, the only meal they receive daily is school lunch. This sat in stark relief to the 1-acre semi-urban property my extended family and I now own.

Mid-March 2020 had Spring in bloom, and some of our trees were heavy with fruit. Using shopping bags, we picked and sorted oranges ten to a bag and added two lemons. Our split rail fence became our impromptu storefront and Instagram our marketing strategy. Enlisting the help of a few friends and my daughter, we picked, bagged, boxed, and gave away 1,500 pounds of passion fruit, dragon fruit, oranges, lemons, limes, apples, peaches, and plums. If our planting bore fruit, we found a home for our excess.

Due to late bloom and warm wet Winter, citrus was ready for harvest in January of 2021, which set off a banner year with over 2,000 pounds of fruit donated to passers-by, food banks, and school programs.

We have dubbed our little sharing experience **#OperationSocialDistanceCitrus**

Mark and his family live by the credence *"Go Boldly into the Darkness and be the Light"*.

