

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*(Steve and Brady Kelly participating in a Bright Blessings Family Service Day)*

## **Bright Blessings to Host Open House Event**

**Family-friendly event will celebrate conclusion of annual Summer “Things” Supply Drive**

Matthews, NC, July 29, 2014 – Bright Blessings will host a community Open House event on Sunday, August 17, 2-5 p.m. to celebrate the conclusion of its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summer Supply Drive which is focused on three of their greatest needs; (Thing 1) juice pouches, (Thing 2) solid colored cake plates and (Thing 3) birthday themed napkins. The local non-profit's programs bring joy and support to more than 3,000 homeless children in the Charlotte region each year.

Thanks to the community's generosity, Bright Blessings was able to collect nearly 5,000 juice pouches during last year's summer drive. This year's collection efforts have expanded to include three of the organization's most highly utilized items, and added a Dr. Seuss theme entitling the collection as the non-profit's Summer “Things” Supply Drive. Bright Blessings distributes 18,000 juice pouches, 27,000 cake plates and 27,000 birthday napkins every year through its Bless-A-Birthday program.

Birthday packages are delivered to schools (anonymously) for transient homeless students and to local housing programs as part of the birthday celebrations Bright Blessings hosts at shelters across a four county area. Bless-A-Birthday packages include typical party essentials such as cupcakes, cookies and juice, treat bags, as well as presents, books and care and comfort items.

Individuals who wish to contribute to Bright Blessings' Summer “Things” Supply Drive can bring their donation items directly to the non-profit's facility, the Giving Village, located at 608-A Matthews-Mint Hill Rd. or to one of its retail partner locations listed below.



**Bright Blessings**  
608-A Matthews-Mint Hill Rd.  
Matthews, NC 28105

**Toys & Company (2 Locations)**

242 S Sharon Amity Rd, Charlotte, NC  
(704) 544-1885

4217 Park Rd 28209 Charlotte, NC  
(704) 527-1921

**The Baby Grocery Store**

10225 Park Rd, Charlotte, NC  
(704) 543-8635

The collection drive will conclude on Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup> with Bright Blessings' Annual Open House where participants can drop off items to add to the organization's final count of "Things" collected. This is a free event from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is open to everyone in the community. The open house offers an inside look at the non-profit's programs and facility. Visitors can take a self-guided tour of The Giving Village and even spend a little time volunteering if they would like a hands-on experience. Light refreshments will be served in the "Village Café" and activities for children, sponsored by Your Event Source, will take place on the lawn including sand art, spin art, and more.

Bright Blessings was founded in 2005 by Amy and John Cervantes of Mint Hill, North Carolina. Their family service project was born from a desire to help needy children while instilling a love and commitment for community service in their own young children. What began as a monthly birthday party at one homeless shelter has grown into a non-profit organization that now operates two core programs, Bless-A-Birthday and Bless-A-Baby, with services that bring joy, care, comfort and hope to more than 3,000 homeless children across the greater Charlotte region.

For media inquiries, please contact Heather Williams at 704-497-0056, [heather@brightblessingsusa.org](mailto:heather@brightblessingsusa.org) or visit [www.brightblessingsusa.org](http://www.brightblessingsusa.org).