



For Immediate Release

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Photo Credit: Sean Hamrock

Photo Caption: Timothy J. Rooney, president & CEO of Empire City Casino, & children at the 2012 presentation of Toys & Coats to Catholic Charities for area families in need.

7th Annual Toy & Coat Drive Kicks Off to Help Families in Need

Empire City Casino & Community Organizations Come Together to Provide Warmth & Christmas Cheer to Hundreds of Area Families through Partnership with Catholic Charities

New York, November 25—For the seventh consecutive year, **Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway** and **Catholic Charities** will team up to make the holiday season a little warmer and a little brighter for families in need. Empire City will host the 17-day **“Christmas Spirit Toy and Coat Drive”** from Friday, **November 22** through Sunday, **December 8**.

Empire City will be accepting the donations every day throughout the drive at promotions booth. Patrons are asked to bring new, unwrapped toys and/or new or gently used coats anytime during that period. The items will be presented to Catholic Charities and their supported agencies for the Christmas holidays.

“There are no greater deeds than charity and service,” says **Timothy J. Rooney**, president and chief executive officer of Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway.

The toy and coat drive has become a holiday tradition at Empire City Casino, and thousands of toys and coats have been donated since 2007 when the campaign was launched. Empire City Casino has a long history of philanthropy and charitable service, providing assistance to thousands of non-profit organizations.



About Catholic Charities: Catholic Charities, a federation of approximately 90 agencies and programs located throughout the 10 counties of the Archdiocese of New York, helps solve the problems of New Yorkers in need – non-Catholics and Catholics alike— with services that protect and nurture children, resolve family crises, assist the hungry and homeless, support the physically and emotionally challenged, and integrate immigrants and refugees.

About Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway: Empire City Casino, one of the largest entertainment and gaming destinations in the country, features 5,300 of the hottest slots, electronic craps, roulette, baccarat and sic bo; year-round harness racing & International simulcasting from North America’s leading harness and thoroughbred venues; nightly live entertainment including party, tribute & Latin

bands, comedy, karaoke & more. A plethora of dining options include authentic Italian cuisine at *Nonno’s Trattoria*; trackside dining with live betting at *Empire Terrace Restaurant*; and convenient options at the *International Food Court* or the *Grab ‘n Go*. A new \$50 million expansion added *Dan Rooney’s*, a high-energy sports bar; *Pinch*, in collaboration with Ducasse Studio, features 100 New York craft beers; and *Alley 810*, a craft cocktail lounge rounds out the entertainment options with retro bowling lanes. Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway is located at 810 Yonkers Avenue (at Central Avenue) in Yonkers, New York, Westchester County (I-87 to Exit 2), open seven days a week from 9:00am to 4:00am. Visit www.empirecitycasino.com or call 914.968.4200 for more information.

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