



## *2017 Parent Christmas Project*

Each December, Light to the World Ministries, in cooperation with the Heart of a Child Project, delivers hundreds of items to needy children who live in Third World countries such as Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Pakistan and in the nations of Africa and the former Soviet Union. These gifts include school supplies, blankets, warm clothing, soft toys, food, and baby items. Last year, with the help of Community Outreach Academy School, we collected 412 soft toys for Mexican children living in need and sent 188 backpacks and various school supplies to Honduran and Ukrainian orphanages. We also gave 103 warm jackets and 31 blankets to children living in poverty, homeless children, and orphans. The soft toys we provided gave comfort as well as joy to their recipients, who not only play with them but also use them as pillows!

This year we sent many children to school, and last year we were honored to take COA students along as we traveled to Mexico to visit the Mexicali city dump and remote areas of Tijuana that hundreds of children call home, where COA students served these children and their impoverished families, whether at dump sites or in orphanages. This year COA student Ben Pekun will be traveling with missionaries and many other children to Tijuana, Mexico, to deliver the gifts collected and donated by COA students. With the help of COA staff, students, and parents, we are striving to send with him more toys and backpacks than ever before.

As COA students have discovered the conditions in which impoverished children live, they have heard many stories that have emphasized the importance of our Christmas project—not only to Light to the World Ministries and the Heart of a Child Mission, but also to kids around the world whose lives will be changed by God's love. Help us give smiles, joy, and happiness to a child in need this Christmas by bringing gently used **SOFT TOYS** or new **SOFT TOYS, BACKPACKS, and BLANKETS** to school, ready to be given to help a child like you!

*Sincerely,*

*Taniya Pekun, COA Parent & Charity Organizer  
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