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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Santa & Volunteers of America Distribute Thousands of Christmas Gifts & Meals to Families in Need

Denver, CO - December 12, 2019 — Volunteers of America and Santa will distribute 5,000 holiday-wrapped gifts and 1,500 Christmas food baskets to families in need on Monday, December 23. Distribution will take place from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the VOA Mission at 2877 Lawrence St in Denver. Individuals with vouchers to receive a food basket will begin lining up early in the morning, and distribution will begin promptly at 9 a.m. Families with children can receive one gift per child from Santa while supplies last.

Christmas food baskets include a turkey, side items, fresh produce and other dry goods for families who otherwise might not be able to afford a holiday meal. Each basket serves six people. This annual holiday tradition feeds more than 9,000 individuals in need in the Denver area each year. All food and toys are donated by community partners including; Safeway, Food Bank of the Rockies, Metro Brokers, American First Bank and many other businesses and community groups throughout the metro area.

Children must be present to receive a gift. Holiday gifts are wrapped and are gender and age appropriate.

WHAT: 5,000 holiday-wrapped gifts and 1,500 food baskets will be distributed to low-income families and individuals who might not have gifts or meal on Christmas. Santa will distribute gifts all day to children.

WHERE: The Volunteers of America Mission, 2877 Lawrence Street, Denver, CO 80205

WHEN: Monday, December 23, 2019. Basket distribution is from **9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.** – the line begins to form early.

Why: Thousands of individuals and families in Denver would not have a meal on Thanksgiving Day if not for the critical partnership of Volunteers of America, Safeway, Food Bank of the Rockies, and the Denver Rescue Mission.

If you cannot attend, but are interested in photos, please contact Vanessa Clark

ABOUT VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA

Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization dedicated to helping those in need live healthy, safe and productive lives. Since 1896, our ministry of service has supported and empowered America's most vulnerable groups, including the frail elderly, people with disabilities, at-risk youth, homeless individuals, women in need, and veterans and their families. For more information about Volunteers of America Colorado, visit www.voacolorado.org.

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