

# DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Officers, Inmates Raise Funds for Kids, Tsunami Relief**

(JUNEAU) – In a unique collaboration, inmates and Correctional Officers at the Point MacKenzie Correctional Farm worked together to raise funds for holiday gifts for needy families and for South Asia tsunami relief.

Facility staff, as they have in past years, conducted a fundraising effort before Christmas to benefit 10 children in the Mat-Su Valley “Secret Santa” program. Inmates donated funds and helped by wrapping the presents. The value of the donation was close to \$900.

Additionally, inmates in the facility’s hobby craft group suggested wooden toys they had made be donated for a silent auction among the prison population, with \$600 raised and given to The Children’s Hospital at Providence.

Following word of the South Asian tsunami disaster, Corrections Officers and inmates challenged each other to raise funds for relief. Just over \$500 has been raised by inmates, which will be matched by staff. The funds – expected to be more than \$1,000 – will be donated through the American Red Cross.

“I’m proud of the extra effort by staff and inmates at Point MacKenzie,” said Corrections Commissioner Marc Antrim. “I’m encouraged that some of our inmates have taken an opportunity to give back to the community by their generous donations.”