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LA County Federation of Labor and United Way Team-up to Deliver Over 1,000 Easter Baskets to Homeless, Ill and Abused Children

(Los Angeles) – The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO Community Services and United Way of Greater Los Angeles teamed up again this year to provide Easter baskets to homeless and abused children throughout Los Angeles County. Over 1500 baskets containing new clothing, toys, candy and school supplies were distributed including 400 to the Children’s Institute International in Los Angeles.

“It’s been a long standing tradition within the Los Angeles Labor movement and the United Way to give to those in the community who need it the most,” said Maria Elena Durazo, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. “We do it during the winter holidays, national disasters and we will continue to do it in the future.”

Taking part in the distribution were union members and leaders who volunteered their time and resources to make this event possible. Over \$15,000 was raised by various unions representing various industries.

“During the grocery worker lock-out of 2003-2004, our workers witnessed an outpouring of community support in our fight to make our jobs, good jobs,” said Michael Straiter, President of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW) Local 1442. “So today, grocery workers are giving back to some of the communities most vulnerable, our children.”

Children's Institute, Inc. (CII) helps children who have been affected by violence in their homes or communities. Since 1906, CII has been serving at-risk children and families throughout Los Angeles County. The agency provides healing and support so traumatized children can recover and lead healthy lives. They lead children away from tragic outcomes and on the path toward opportunity and achievement.

The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO Community Services Department is a cooperative relationship between the AFL-CIO and the United Way. Through their partnership, assistance is given to those who are on strikes or locked out, facing layoffs, plant closures, unemployed or underemployed. The core programs are emergency food and utility assistance. To learn more about the Federation please visit www.launionaflcio.org

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