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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1000th Child Receives a Birthday Basket from On The Day You Were Born Project

(For The Child, Long Beach, CA) – Patty Mehl and Patti Trujillo had an idea a few years ago. Birthday celebrations were very important to their families and they were fortunate enough to be able to give their children gifts and parties. They wanted to share their good fortune with children whose families couldn't afford to celebrate. Patty and Patti created On The Day You Were Born, now a project of For The Child. On Monday at Edison Elementary they delivered their 1000th birthday basket filled with gifts of clothes, toys, books and all of the makings for a party, including a cake from their partner in this project, Creative Cakery in Long Beach.

Patty and Patti raise the funding each year for their project of love with a holiday open house and silent auction. For The Child's Volunteer Coordinator identifies young children who are part of FTC's child abuse program or just happen to be a student in need at one of For The Child's partner schools. Each basket has a theme and is personalized for the specific child. Patty and Patti deliver the "Birthday in a Basket" to For The Child or the school so their parent can take the celebration home to have a family party.

Friends and family members help, but Patty and Patti do the majority of the shopping, wrapping and basket delivery. This production crew now provides 25 birthday baskets a month. Creative Cakery has been

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with them from the start. They donated their 1000th cake this week to brighten the life of a child for whom this might be their first real party.

Media Notice

Several pictures related to this press release may be downloaded at www.forthchild.org.

Included is a picture of Edison Elementary student, 8 year old SomBath Chan, a young man who received his birthday gifts several weeks ago and responded with a beautiful thank you note and small gift that he picked out for the birthday ladies.

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