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Arapahoe County provides toys for tots *Arapahoe County to deliver toddler cars to needy child care facilities*

Littleton, Colo. --- More than 50 children will have the opportunity to practice for the driver's license years before they can take the test. This week Arapahoe County Commissioners Rod Bockenfeld and Susan Beckman presented 10 toddler cars to two child care centers. The cars were part of the toddler driving school activity at this year's Arapahoe County Fair and as part of the agreement, the cars will be donated to needy child care centers each year.

"The toddler driving school was a very popular activity at the Fair and donating these cars to local child care centers is a great way to extend the activity into the community," said Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld.

At Deer Trail Preschool Director Gail Bell knows how much this will benefit the 26 children in her program, "Our tricycles are too big for the 3 year olds, these cars will help the younger ones develop their coordination."

On the other side of the County, The Village 2 caters to children six weeks to 3½ years old and is the first infant and toddler program in the Littleton School District. Other districts are looking at the program in an effort to replicate it across the Denver metro area.

"We have one car that we can rarely let the children play with because there aren't enough to share," said Director Janet Deustch, "We're so excited to receive these cars and help children strengthen their motor skills and learn the value of sharing and taking turns."

"It's great to be able to support such a wonderful early childhood education program and this is a way where children get to experience the Fair all year long," said Commissioner Susan Beckman.

To download photos click on the following link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/photos/>

Photo captions:

Beckman: Arapahoe County Commissioner Susan Beckman helps unwrap one of the new toys.

Village: Arapahoe County Commissioners Rod Bockenfeld and Susan Beckman pose with teachers and kids from Village 2.

RodDeerTrail: Arapahoe County Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld poses with Principal Stuart Larson, Director Gail Bell and kids from Deer Trail Preschool.

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