

St. James Stevedoring's Community Outreach Continues



Mrs. Willie Mae Williams along with Brianna Al-Anin and little sister Neeka were on hand to receive computers from St. James Stevedoring company President, Paul Morton, and Vice President, John Crane, as part of SJS' community outreach efforts.

St. James Stevedoring continues its' community outreach efforts this week by donating new computers and printers to local churches and students.

One computer will go to Lucher High graduate, Brianna Al-Anin, who plans on taking it with her to the University of Louisiana Lafayette when she starts college there this fall.

The remaining donated computers will go to Pleasant Hill Baptist Church and Pilgrim Baptist Church and will be set up in each as a resource center for area youth to help with homework, school projects and etc...

"We view our outreach efforts into St. James parish as 'community opportunities' "said St. James Stevedoring President, Paul Morton. "Investment in our communities gets paid back time and again and in immeasurable positive ways throughout the community."

"We are proud to be a part of this community. Our commitment to being a good corporate citizen goes beyond business. For us, it's about positively impacting the personal lives of the people around us, our employees as well as the surrounding community," added Vice President John Crane.

Good corporate citizens indeed, St. James is actively involved in a number of ongoing community initiatives such as their Thanksgiving "Turkeys for Turkeys" program in which employees donate food to the annual food drive by placing it in one of a number of receptacle bins which have the name of a manager.

Whichever manager receives the most "votes" (food donations) in their bin, delivers lunch to the crews dressed in a turkey costume. The donated food is distributed to needy families in St. James Parish. Another community initiative to

rid District Four of blighted areas teams St. James Stevedoring up with other St. James Parish companies as part an industry group to fund the clean up and removal the debris, thereby ridding the neighborhoods of these eyesores and the dangers they possess.

St. James Stevedoring latest foray into community outreach is a program in the early stages of development and is called "The Next 25". The Next 25 is a non-profit organization, initially started by St. James parish companies collectively celebrating 25 years in business in the community, that is geared toward helping citizens of the community better prepare themselves for jobs that can be found right here in the parish.

After learning of the program and recognizing the value of such a program, many other companies in the parish now have jumped onboard. "We are extremely proud to be a part of this endeavor..." says Morton, "... the teamwork exhibited by the other companies involved as well as parish officials who are really working hard to help bring this program to fruition for the parish constituents exhibits community at its finest – people, government, business all working together..." Agreed.