



Press Release

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Collision Industry Celebrates 1,000th Car Donation to Help Struggling Families Without Transportation

Over \$12 Million in Vehicles Donated through the National Auto Body Council's Recycled Rides Program

PALM SPRINGS, CA (January 12, 2016) -- A Palm Springs, California couple and their four children who have been struggling without transportation were the special recipients of the 1,000th vehicle donated by the National Auto Body Council's Recycled Rides™ program

Marcella and Damian Walls, both of whom became unemployed due to unexpected job layoffs, represent thousands of other individuals across the country whose lives have been positively impacted by the Recycled Rides program, a unique collaborative effort by the auto collision industry.

While there are many worthwhile car donation organizations, most scrap donated vehicles and use profits to fund charities. The goal of the National Auto Body Council's Recycled Rides program is to refurbish and donate vehicles so recipients can obtain employment, get to and from work, take care of their families and improve their quality of life.

Since the program's inception in 2007, members of the National Auto Body Council, representing all facets of the collision industry, have racked up significant achievements:

- Over 1,000 vehicles donated by insurance, rental car, salvage and auto auction companies.
- 65,000 volunteer hours by collision repair professionals to refurbish the vehicles.
- \$4 million in parts, materials and services donated by manufacturers and suppliers.
- Total of more than \$12 million in refurbished vehicles donated to veterans, active duty service members and struggling families.

"Individuals and families without reliable transportation are in a catch-22 situation," said Domenic Brusco, Chairman of the National Auto Body Council. "They struggle financially, cannot afford a car but without it, employment opportunities are limited. Daily routines are even more stressful and challenging. Recycled Rides provides the catalyst they need to restore independence, pride and self-esteem to become self-sustaining."



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National Auto Body Council members partner with local nonprofit charities who select recipients for Recycled Rides. The organization also partners with 1-800 Charity Cars, powered by AudaExplore, a Solera Company, which donates resources to help process the myriad of paperwork required to transfer and register vehicle titles for Recycled Rides recipients.

Hertz, Caliber Collision Unveil 1,000th Recycled Rides

The Walls Family were presented keys to a practically brand new 2015 Nissan Pathfinder donated by The Hertz Corporation and refurbished by Caliber Collision-Coachella Valley at a special Recycled Rides presentation in Palm Springs to commemorate the 1,000th vehicle milestone. Parts, materials and services were donated by LKQ Corporation, Palm Springs Nissan, Mohica Towing, and Valley Smog and Auto Repair.

The family was nominated by a local nonprofit organization, Variety the Children's Charity of the Desert. Without steady income, the Walls lost their only car when they were unable to keep up with payments. Recently, Marcella started a new job at a local radio station while Damian works part-time as a high school referee and a youth umpire. Their four children, ages 5-18, are actively involved in church youth group and sports programs. The Walls do not live near a bus line, so the entire family walk or rely on friends for transportation.

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Photos attached:

Photo 1 – Marcella Walls and her children check out their new car.

Photo 2 - Representatives of Hertz Corporation, Caliber Collision, and Palm Springs Mayor Rob Moon with the Walls family.

Graphic: statistics on collision industry contributions

About the National Auto Body Council:

The National Auto Body Council (NABC) develops, implements and promotes community-based initiatives that exemplify the professionalism and integrity of the collision repair industry. Members of the National Auto Body Council are recognized and acknowledged as responsible businesses that give back to the communities they serve. For more information, contact the National Auto Body Council at 1-888-667-7433 or at www.NationalAutoBodyCouncil.org. Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NationalAutoBodyCouncil. The NABC's Twitter feed is @AutoBodyCouncil.

About the 1-800 Charity Cars, powered by AudaExplore, a Solera Company

1-800 Charity Cars is a 501(C) (3) non-profit organization and the first car donation charity of its kind in the nation. The organization's main focus is to provide free donated vehicles to assist struggling families



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in their transition from dependency to self-sufficiency. One hundred percent of every car donation helps provide the gift of transportation to a family in need. Cars that do not qualify to be given to a family are sold and help fund repairs to program cars. This way, even vehicles that do not run are helping a family receive a reliable, working car. Vehicle donors and struggling families nationwide who wish to apply for a free charity car can contact the organization at www.FreeCharityCars.org.