

## **Metro Express Car Wash renews year of free washes for Children's Home Society van**

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Metro Express Car Wash, with locations in Boise, Meridian and Nampa, is donating another year of free car washes for a transport van used by the Children's Home Society of Idaho (CHS).

"We like to help local charities any way we can and the Children's Home Society does important work in the community," said Metro Express owner Bill Martin. "We know they will get good use out of these washes."

Metro Express started the program last spring. Two vans were affixed with a Radio Frequency ID sticker inside the windshield; drivers need only drive up to the gate and it will open automatically. An identical system is used with the Unlimited Metro Pass, which allows unlimited monthly washes for \$25 or \$50, depending on wash type. CHS has since sold one of the vans so Metro Express is just outfitting one this time around.

"We appreciate Metro Express' kind donation. Their support enables us to focus on our mission of providing behavioral health services to children and families in our community who need them most," said Stacey Taylor, Marketing and Development Manager, CHS.

CHS operates the Warm Springs Counseling Center, Warm Springs Training Institute and The Bridge. Through these entities, CHS provides behavioral health services, training for mental health professionals and innovative approaches to improving foster care.

Martin opened the first Metro Express location in Boise in 2004, a Meridian location in 2006 and the Nampa location in February. The washes have earned awards and drawn industry recognition for their environmentally conscious water reclamation and social media, public relations and community involvement campaigns.

A fundraiser at the Nampa wash in May raised \$4,100 for the Valley Crisis Center. The company also provides half-price wash cards to local clubs and charities, for resale at full-value, as an alternative to parking lot car wash fundraisers, which harm local water quality. The business has donated hundreds of free washes to various charities for drawing prizes.

Martin, a past president of the International Car Wash Association, has 40 years in the car wash industry and extensive experience in developing, building, and operating car washes throughout the country. Martin also owns J's Ultimate Hand Wash in Garden City and has operated about 40 other car washes throughout his career.