



BOROU



## HWP and Fair Lawn Public Works Divert hundreds of toys from landfills and re-circulate to kids in need

## **Background:**

- Fair Lawn Department of Public Works, lead by Ron Lottermann, collects donations of plastic toys year-round for Second Chance Toys. The program gives local families a great opportunity to declutter toys in a sustainable way.
- To prepare for Earth Month donation efforts, on April 21, 2023 Fair Lawn Public Works welcomed the SCT team and volunteers from Health and Wellness Partners LLC to spend the morning screening toys for distribution to SCT recipient organizations.
- The HWP team emptied the donation bin and then cleaned, sorted, repaired, and packed donated toys to get them back into good-as-new condition.
- Linda Spinella of HWP coordinated with SCT staff to plan the volunteer event for her team, and brought a wonderful group of 10 leaders.
- Fair Lawn DPW staff provided a workspace and assisted greatly with refuse removal and the finishing touches on cleaning the trailer in preparation for more toy donations.

## Results:

- 750 toys were collected, cleaned, and put into the hands of children in need, therefore keeping them out of landfills.
- A minimum of 1,500 children positively impacted with each round of shared play.
- Average 3,000 lbs. of plastic diverted from the waste stream.
- 10 square yards of landfill space saved from unnecessary plastic waste volume.
- Toys were picked up by Joi's Angels of East Orange, NJ and have been distributed to children they serve at a variety of community events.













