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One-day charity 'drive' on toll road raises \$37,500

By [Robert J. Hawkins](#)

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CHULA VISTA — South Bay Expressway's recent single-day "Drive for Charity" raised \$30,000 for South County charities and an additional \$7,500 went to a fund for the family of slain San Diego Police Officer Christopher Wilson.

On Nov. 19, SBX culled one dollar from every fare on the 10-mile South Bay toll road, also known as SR-125 South, for its third annual charity drive and 25 cents from each toll went to the Wilson fund.

SBX invited its customers to nominate local charities to receive the \$5,000 "Community Hero" grants and received 237 nominations. The four finalists were picked by a panel that included Chula Vista Mayor Cheryl Cox, SBX CEO Greg Hulsizer, San Diego Board of Education Board Member Jerry Rindone, and representing the local business community, Rick Davis from UPS.

The \$5,000 grants went to Operation Courage is Beautiful, which supports female military on overseas duty; family-support group Send ME Foundation; Friends of Chula Vista Parks and Recreation; and the 20-year-old assistance group Project Hand.

"The \$5,000 grant is enough to help us send over 1,200 care packages to our service women overseas," said Cindy Chan, Founder of Operation Courage is Beautiful in a prepared statement.

From the one-day charity drive, SBX will also fund six \$1,000 high school scholarships and a \$4,000 contribution to Homefront San Diego, which supports local military families.

South Bay Expressway has held the fund drive each year since 2008 to celebrate its anniversary and has raised nearly \$100,000 for local community groups, according to an SBX spokesman.

Find this article at:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/nov/29/sbx-raises-nearly-40000-one-day-charity-drive>

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