

# **An Abundance Of Bears For FHP**

By Chuck McGinness | Wednesday, January 31, 2007, 10:06 AM

They're responsible for managing traffic on some of South Florida's major highways.

But employees of the SMART SunGuide Transportation Center in Fort Lauderdale went the extra mile to help a partner.

An inter-office campaign to collect teddy bears for the Florida Highway Patrol quickly caught on with family, friends and assisting agencies. At the center's recent awards ceremony, operations manager Steve Corbin presented FHP Sgt. Mark Wysocky with 428 stuffed animals.

FHP troopers carry a supply of teddy bears in their patrol cars to help comfort kids at traumatic incidents.

"Small children at crash scenes, especially if there is an injury, feel much more secure when they have a small animal to hang on to," Wysocky said. "With a large donation, we'll be able to stock all of our troop's stations with bears for the whole year."

The center plans on making the campaign an annual event, Corbin said.

"We hope to be able to provide even more bears next year," he said.

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