

***** Media Advisory *****

Worcester County Sheriff's Office Winter Coat Drive Distribution Schedule

WHO: Worcester County Sheriff's Office & Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff's Association

WHAT: 2023 Winter Coat Drive Distributions

WHEN: See Schedule Below

WHERE: See Schedule Below

CONTACT: Eric Eisner, Communications Director, Worcester County Sheriff's Office – Cell: 774-450-5010

[Worcester County] - As the winter season approaches, the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff's Association are gearing up for their Annual Winter Coat Drive to ensure that those in need stay warm and comfortable during the winter months. In total, the organizations are aiming to deliver 4,000 new warm winter coats to those in need.

On October 17th, the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff's Association hosted their annual Winter Coat Drive Kick-Off event at Pepe's Italian Restaurant in Worcester to raise funds and awareness for the event.

This gathering attracted many community sponsors including Saint Francis Community Health Care, The Gun Parlor, Mercadante Funeral Home, Athol Savings Bank, Falcone Enterprises, The Savickas Family, NEPBA Local 550 Worcester County Correction Officers, The Krock Family & Commerce Associates, Berkshire Bank, and Tito's Handmade Vodka, among other local organizations.

Starting Tuesday, October 24th, and continuing through the 27th, Sheriff Lew Evangelidis and his team will distribute thousands of coats directly to community members and organizations. These coats will provide warmth and comfort during the colder months and serve as a symbol of support and care from local law enforcement.

“As recipients tell us, these coats represent so much more than a winter jacket, they represent a community that cares,” commented Sheriff Evangelidis. “The department has received countless displays of appreciation from the recipients, which shows just how much of an impact this gesture has. This is a special time of the year for the Sheriff’s Department and we’re looking forward to connecting with the community members we serve.”

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Annual Winter Coat Drive Distribution Schedule – Media Encouraged at highlighted events – RSVP Recommended for Others

Tuesday, October 24th

(Central Worcester County)

10:00 AM - St. John's Food for the Poor, 44 Temple St., Worcester – (Distributed Directly to Recipients)

11:00 AM - El Buen Samaritano Food Pantry, 39 Piedmont St., Worcester - (Distributed Directly to Recipients)

1:15 PM - African Community and Cultural Center, 870 Main St., Worcester

1:30 PM - Net of Compassion, 674 Main St., Worcester

2:00 PM - Yes We Care Church, Illinois St., Worcester - (Distributed Directly to Recipients)

Wednesday, October 25th

(South Worcester County)

9:15 AM - Webster Dudley Food Share, 4 Church St., Webster

9:30 AM - Reconciliation House, 5 North Main St., Webster

10:00 AM - Tradewinds Clubhouse, 309 Main St., Southbridge

10:20 AM - House of Destiny, 104 Everett St., Southbridge

Friday, October 27th

(North Worcester County)

10:00 AM - Gardner CAC, 294 Pleasant St., Gardner

10:30 AM - Alyssa's Place, 297 Central St., Gardner

11:10 AM - Restoration Recovery, 40 Fairmont St., Fitchburg

11:30 AM - Community Health Connections, 130 Water St., Fitchburg (Behind Building) (Distributed Directly to Recipients)

12:20 PM - Leominster Police Department, 29 Church St., Leominster

12:45 PM - Women's Recovery Center, 196 Mechanic St., Leominster

Photo 1: Coat Drive Collection Table and Bins Overflowing with Warm Winter Jackets at the Sheriff's Annual Coat Drive Kick-Off

Photo 2: Sheriff Lew Evangelidis Poses with Worcester County Sheriff's Office Staff During the Sheriff's Annual Coat Drive Kick-Off