

Rotary Club Winter Coat Drive Surpasses Goal Of 1,000 Coats For Keeping Kids Warm Project

Going into its fourth consecutive year, Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines distributes over 1,000 coats to children in need throughout Urbandale, West Des Moines and Des Moines

URBANDALE, Iowa –December 7, 2017 – The [Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines](#) announces the distribution of 420 winter coats this season to help keep children warm during Iowa’s cold winter months. With the help of a matching Community Service Grant from Rotary International District 6000, the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines was able to expand its distribution to include children in the Urbandale Community School District, St. Pius Catholic School, West Des Moines Community School District and Des Moines Public Schools. Since 2014, Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines has purchased and distributed 1,074 coats to children in need.



Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines 2017 Winter Coat Drive. Front Row: Dr. Keri Schlueter, Urbandale CSD Coordinator of Student Services and Tim Johnson, Master of Social Work intern at Urbandale High School from the University of Iowa School of Social Work. Back Row: Michele Hamilton, Urbandale CSD Coordinator of Student, Family and Community Services; Christy Stroope, Urbandale CSD Facilitator of Family Outreach; Brittany Cooley, Urbandale CSD Facilitator of Family Outreach; and Tiffany Braxton, Urbandale CSD Facilitator of Family Outreach.

“Keeping Kids Warm is one of the many projects the Rotary Club does with the collective passion and purpose of Service Above Self and living our vision that we change the world and our community by educating, empowering, building bridges and serving across generations; one community at a time,” said Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines Past President Brenda Auxier-Mailey.

Through a partnership with Operation Warm, a nonprofit organization that provides coats at a significant discount, Rotary Club was also able to purchase over 150 pairs of gloves for students in need. The mission of Operation Warm, to provide new winter coats to children in need, helping to improve self-confidence, peer acceptance, school attendance and overall wellness, is a natural fit for Rotary as both organizations are driven by a passion to serve and support those in need.



Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines 2017 Winter Coat Drive. Rotary of NW DM Past President, Brenda Auxier-Mailey and Current President Leray Glendenning.

Urbandale Community School District is grateful for the partnership with Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines, and is thankful for the generous donations of winter coats and gloves to students in need. These donations are paramount for the health and well-being of students throughout the metro and are sure to keep kids warm and ready to learn this winter.

About Rotary

Rotary International is an organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. There are 1.2 million Rotary members in 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Rotary clubs have been serving communities worldwide for more than a century. The first Rotary club was founded in Chicago in 1905. To learn more about the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines, visit <http://portal.clubrunner.ca/1664>

About Urbandale Community School District

The Urbandale Community School District includes portions of Des Moines and Urbandale, Iowa. The District serves over 3,900 students in six elementary schools, one middle school and one comprehensive high school. The Urbandale District supports an increasingly diverse student population where 47 languages are spoken. Building on the existing foundation of excellence in education, Urbandale is transforming education throughout the District. By implementing innovative [Quality/Continual Improvement](#) strategies that create learning environments that more fully engage, challenge and motivate students, Urbandale is taking transformation from theory into practice. Urbandale prepares students for becoming lifelong learners and is a school district that brings learning to life for everyone. To learn more, visit: UrbandaleSchools.com and follow on Twitter [@UrbandaleCSD](#).

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