

Grace Baptist Youth Group to Sponsor “One Warm Coat” Clothing Drive to Benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Shelter

BRISTOL, CT – 10/17/2007 -- Grace Baptist is dedicated to serving the Bristol community while providing an outreach opportunity for its young adults. This Saturday October 20th, Grace Baptist Church will sponsor a coat drive at their Bristol location on the corner of King Street and Louisiana Avenue, from 10:00am until 2:00pm. This event is assisted by the Grace Baptist Junior High program (known as F.R.O.G.S.) and the purpose is to involve the youth in missionary and benevolent work.

“This is a great opportunity to include our kids in a charitable event”, says youth leader Matt Gooding. “It’s difficult to get them enthusiastic about charity work if they’ve never experienced it before. Our hope is that the more [mission] work we do with the kids now, the more they will continue to do on their own.”

“One Warm Coat” was started in 1992 by Lois Pavlow, a concerned citizen of San Francisco, who found herself with a coat, which she wished to donate to a person truly in need of a warm coat for the winter. Lois did not want to have the coat pass through an agency where a person would pay for the coat—she wanted to provide it for free.

All clothing contributions to “One Warm Coat” through the Grace Baptist sponsorship will be provided to the St Vincent DePaul shelter, a 25-bed shelter which serves hundreds of homeless persons including children and families in the greater Bristol area.

“We are hopeful that this drive will bring in enough coats to meet the needs at both the homeless shelter and the Women’s Transitional Center”, says Bonnie Cote, this year’s event coordinator for Grace Baptist. “Many of the families that come through the shelter do not have adequate clothing necessary to protect their body from the harsh winter weather”.

Additional contribution and donations will be used to purchase socks, scarves, hats, and gloves.

The coat drive will be held in the church parking lot, off the Louisiana Avenue entrance. In the case of inclement weather, the coat drive and clothing drop off will be held in the church gymnasium. Refreshments will be provided courtesy of the F.R.O.G.S. youth ministry.

For comments and further information, please contact Bonnie Cote, Event Coordinator, Grace Baptist Church 860-402-7555.

One Warm Coat® is a national non-profit organization that assists in the donation of coats. For additional information

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