



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Danielle Faulkner

PR Coordinator / Coats for Kids Committee

The Junior League of Austin

915-491-5035 | cfkpr@jlaustin.org

Over 30,000 Coats to Be Distributed By The Junior League of Austin

AUSTIN, Texas — For the past 32 years, 2800 community and The Junior League of Austin volunteers have come together one Saturday in December to help thousands of families find just the right warm winter coat for their children. This year's event will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2018, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. or until every child in line receives a warm winter coat. To date, the community volunteers and partners have helped deliver around 900,000 coats!

Coats for Kids, distributes more than 30,000 coats to children in need in Central Texas each year and is one of the largest drives and distributions in the nation. The Junior League of Austin, Jack Brown Cleaners, 98.1 KVET and KVUE are proud to sponsor this event and thank the Central Texas community for supporting this worthwhile cause! Coats will be distributed at the Palmer Events Center and to pre-registered students in Del Valle ISD and at Guerrero Thompson Elementary.

This annual community event collects and distributes new and dry cleaned gently worn, warm winter coats to the qualifying youth of Central Texas, while also providing an opportunity for families to access local resources through an onsite community fair at Palmer Events Center. The community fair features 28 area nonprofits who serve our community by providing flu shots, dental screenings and much more.

All of Austin is invited to be a part of this important community-wide event. Participation opportunities include: donation of a coat or \$20 towards the purchase of a new coat. Hosting a coat drive with your co-workers and friends- we provide all of the materials for an easy set up. Volunteering with friends and family throughout the event Set-up Week, and on Coat

Distribution Day on December 8th. Children are welcome to volunteer on Youth Sorting Night, Tuesday, December 4th. Students ages 15 and up may volunteer during the week, however for privacy concerns, volunteers must be 18+ to volunteer on Distribution Day.

Volunteers who speak Spanish, Farsi, American Sign Language, and other languages are especially needed on Distribution Day. The community's support – both financial and in volunteer efforts – helps to keep so many children warm and healthy during the cold winter months.

Donated coats can be dropped off at any Jack Brown Dry Cleaners. Monetary donations can be made online at www.jlaustin.org.

KEY DATES

- Community Coat Drive: Monday November 12 - Wednesday December 5
- Coat Drive Competition: Monday November 12 - Wednesday November 28
- Volunteer Registration: began October 6, 2018 at jlaustin.org under the Coats for Kids tab
- Distribution Day: Saturday, December 8, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION

The Palmer Events Center
900 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704

This is a community-based initiative and it is because of the support of local groups, businesses, schools, and individuals that the youngest members of our community will be protected from the cold this winter.

To donate to Coats for Kids or to volunteer, please visit <http://www.jlaustin.org/coats>.

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