

CLOTHING DRIVE

Coats for Kids drive heats up as cold weather approaches

The cold weather is fast approaching and many area families are bracing for another winter without warm coats. This is why Anton's Cleaners in Reading is once again calling upon residents to help make this winter a little warmer for children, teens and adults in need throughout eastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire.

Anton's has just kicked off its 15th annual Coats for Kids winter coat drive with a goal of collecting 60,000 coats in good, wearable condition before Jan. 9. Coats can be dropped off at the Anton's store, 47 Harnden St.

Since its inception in 1995, Coats for Kids distributed over 550,000 coats, representing \$6.5 million in donated cleaning costs. Last year alone, nearly 65,000 coats

were collected with a large number of those coming in through the Corporate Partners and school program.

FOX25, Jordan's Furniture and KISS-108 & JAMN-94.5 are providing promotional support for Coats for Kids. Supporting Partners for Coats for Kids include Graham Communications and Package Supply Corporation.

Once collected and cleaned, coats will be distributed through the Coats for Kids Distribution Partners network, which includes organizations such as Massachusetts Community Action Programs (MASSCAP), Salvation Army, Cradles to Crayons, Middlesex Human Service Agency, BUMC: Outreach Van Project, Lowell Wish Project, Community Giving Tree, Mental Health Association of

Greater Lowell, Strafford County Community Action, Catholic Charities, Dorchester House MSC, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, Carolina Hill Shelter, Taunton State Hospital, South Shore Day Care Services, Codman Square Health Center, Children's Services of Roxbury and Harbour House Family Shelter, to name just a few.

For more information, visit antons.com/cfk or call the Coats for Kids hotline at 800-659-0069. Also follow Coats for Kids on Facebook and Twitter. Anton's Cleaners, a family-owned business with 44 stores in eastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire, was recently honored with the Massachusetts Family Business Award.

