

Democrats ask residents to donate coats for needy

"Winter is cold. Donate warmth!" said Laura Coppola Spathanas who is coordinating a winter coat collection drive for the Swampscott Democratic Town Committee. The committee is partnering with Anton's Cleaners in its annual Coats For Kids program.

"The mission of *Coats For Kids* is simple — anyone in need of a coat will have one," states Anton's Web site at antons.com/cfk. The company seeks collection partners throughout Greater Boston and Southern New Hampshire to collect gently worn warm kid, adult or baby sized winter coats. The company will clean them and distribute them to the needy. Since the program began in 1994, Anton's has collected, cleaned free of charge and distributed over 562,000 winter coats to men, women and children who would otherwise be without one.

"President Obama has called on all Americans to volunteer to be of service to their community," said Ralph Edwards, chairman of the town committee. "The Coats For Kids drive

along, with our own 'Reduce Hunger' program which collects food for local food pantries, are just two ways in which SDTC members are working to make our community a more humane place to live."

"We are calling on all the people of Swampscott to join us in Coats For Kids," said Spathanas. "Swampscott residents have been

amazingly generous to our 'Reduce Hunger' food collection program. We hope that they will be equally generous to the Coats For Kids collection drive ... Dec. 12-14."

For more information about how to donate, e-mail info@SwampscottDems.org or call John Moynihan at 781-598-8981.



COURTESY PHOTO

Nikki, Angela and Christina Spathanas will be helping their mother Laura and the Swampscott Democrats in their winter coat collection drive.

