



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
OFFICE OF MEDIA RELATIONS

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Probation & Parole winter clothing drive collects more than 200 coats *Annual effort offers timely assistance with current sub-freezing temperatures*

Just in time to help people deal with the current sub-freezing temperatures, the annual Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) Probation & Parole winter clothing drive, Operation ZiPP Up, has distributed more than 350 pieces of winter clothing items to local missions, shelters and outreach programs across the state. The drive concluded with 218 coats collected, along with 52 hats and 82 additional items, such as gloves and scarves.

“It can be difficult to fully express the positive impact of a simple gesture, such as donating one coat and one pair of gloves,” said Senior Probation Officer Dennis Desilet, who coordinates Operation ZiPP Up. “In tough times, and on especially cold days like we’re seeing right now, a warm coat may be a luxury some cannot afford. Fortunately, thanks to the generosity and community spirit shown by Probation and Parole Officers, additional DOC staff and their friends and families, people in need will have warm coats and clothing this winter.”

Desilet was assisted by Belinda Vann, Kate Giannone, Melissa Harris, Stacey Mulholland and Jodie Hunter.

“Corrections employees continue to show their support for the communities where they work and live,” said DOC Commissioner Carl Danberg. “I am extremely proud of the success this program has generated over the years.”

Since the collection drive’s inception in 2007, more than 1,000 winter coats and more than 400 additional winter clothing items have been collected and donated.

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Department of Correction employees Jodie Hunter (left) and Christopher Klein with some of the coats, hats and gloves recently collected during the annual Operation ZiPP Up winter clothing drive.

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