



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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C&L WARD HOSTS “STUFF THE VAN” FOOD, TOILETRIES AND WINTER WEAR DRIVE THIS WEDNESDAY
Catholic Charities of Genesee and Shiawassee Counties to Benefit

November 24, 2014 (Davison, MI) - C&L Ward will host their inaugural “Stuff the Van” food, toiletries and winter wear drive to benefit Catholic Charities’ North End Soup Kitchen and Holy Angels Community Closet. The event will be held this Wednesday, November 26 at their Davison location, 9284 Lapeer Road, from 11am-2pm. The goal is to fill one of the company’s vans with non-perishable canned goods and other food, toiletries, clothing and household items during the time of the event. Monetary donations will be accepted as well. There will be refreshments, giveaways and a chance to register for C&L Ward’s 10K Home Makeover.

The North End Soup Kitchen, located at 785 N. Stewart Street in Flint, serves over 175,000 meals to Genesee County residents annually and relies heavily on donations to make this possible. They accept non-perishable food items. Foods most needed currently are: Pasta, tomato sauce, canned vegetables, canned meat, rice, beans, boxed potatoes, stuffing and canned fruit.

Holy Angels Community Closet is a store-like distribution center which allocates toiletries, household items and clothing to the less fortunate. They are most in need of bar soap, dish soap, laundry soap, shampoo, toothpaste and deodorant. They also gladly accept travel-sized and hotel toiletries. In addition, there is an urgent need for new or gently used winter items such as hats, gloves, mittens, coats, snow pants, boots, blankets, etc., for all ages, especially for children. They have distributed more than 900 coats since October 1 of this year and need many more. As a side note, any clothing needing repair should be put in a separate bag and labeled. Catholic Charities has volunteers who will repair the items, making them wearable for the recipients.

“There are so many individuals and families in our community who are struggling to get by; I think this is especially true during the holiday season,” comments Vicky Schultz, President and CEO of Catholic Charities. “We are so grateful to C&L Ward for joining Catholic Charities to help those in need, and for their commitment to giving back to our community,” adds Schultz.

“We have worked with Catholic Charities in the past and understand the real and immediate need in our community for not only hot meals from the soup kitchen but toiletries, clothing and household items for those that the community closet serves,” stated Michelle Shook, Vice President Marketing and Communications for C & L Ward. “We chose the day before Thanksgiving to show our gratitude to this wonderful community who has been so supportive of us for the last 42 years. We feel that people will be shopping for their own Thanksgiving feasts during this time, so we want to encourage them to buy a little extra and bring it to our office to help us fill our van so those in need have these items during the cold winter months.” Shook continues, “We would also like to challenge other businesses to do a drive in the next thirty days because the need is so great.”

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C&L Ward does several fundraisers throughout the year including an annual breast cancer fundraiser and their monthly “Likes for Dollars” Facebook campaign which benefits organizations in Genesee County, the Great Lakes Bay region, Metro Detroit and Greater Lansing.

ABOUT C & L WARD

C & L Ward is one of Michigan top providers of exterior home improvement replacement products and services. Founded in 1972, C & L Ward is a family-owned and operated corporation that is strongly committed to complete customer satisfaction. They have three interactive showroom locations displaying windows, siding, roofing & decking products & service the following market areas: Flint, Tri-Cities & Metro Detroit. Recognized by both *Qualified Remodeler* and *Remodeling* magazines as one of the nation’s top remodeling firms in the last 5 consecutive years and they have over 25,000 satisfied clients and offer FREE in-home consultations. They are known for quick response repair services for existing roofs, windows, doors and siding with highly trained & certified installation teams. For more information, visit them at goclward.com. Find them (and like them) on facebook at www.facebook.com/clwardbros, Twitter @CandLWard, You Tube at C&L Ward, Pinterest at C&L Ward or hash tag #GoCLWard, as well.

About Catholic Charities of Genesee and Shiawassee Counties

Since 1941, Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee Counties has worked to strengthen lives and preserve families by providing quality, comprehensive, human service programming and services. Today, they continue to fulfill their mission – *Providing Help and Creating Hope* – by offering all individuals, regardless of faith or situation, the means to reinforce the positive values of family life, by contributing to harmonious family interrelationships, and by promoting healthy personality development for individuals and families. Catholic Charities abides by fundamental values and ethical standards as determined by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing.

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