

Missoula County Media Release

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Project Community Connect in Need of Donations

Project Community Connect - a one-day event for those at risk of or who are experiencing homelessness - is in need of clothing donations to provide basic care for some of our most vulnerable community members. More than 100 community organizations and businesses come together for this one-day event to provide critical services and hospitality. Now in its twelfth year, Project Community Connect, formerly Project Homeless Connect, provides services and basic need items, such as clothing, toiletries, food, a haircut, medical and dental care. Through human connections, meeting basic needs and core services, participants can begin to move away from housing crises towards self-sufficiency.

Project Community Connect provides an annual winter clothing closet. Participants can obtain any clothing item or winter gear needed at no cost. This offering is very popular and can only happen with generous donations from community members.

Help is needed. Clothing donation bins have been placed throughout the Missoula community. Please consider donating new or gently used clothing items or winter gear that can be added to the winter clothing closet. Items can be of any size, for men, women or children. A list of needed items includes:

- Sweaters
- Long-sleeved shirts
- Pants
- Warm socks
- Underwear
- Gloves
- Winter coats
- Winter boots
- Winter hats
- Scarves
- Long underwear
- Hand warmers
- Sleeping bags
- Blankets
- Backpacks

Drop-off locations for donations include:

- Missoula County Courthouse Rotunda, 200 West Broadway.
- Missoula County Treasurer's/Motor Vehicle Office, 200 West Broadway.
- Missoula County Library (main floor Reference Desk), 301 East Main Street.
- Missoula Aging Services (socks and underwear only), 337 Stephens Avenue.
- Missoula REI, Grant Creek Town Center, 3275 N Reserve St. Suite K-2.
- Missoula YMCA, 3000 South Russell Street.
- Consumer Direct, 100 Consumer Direct Way.
- Community Medical Center, 2827 Fort Missoula Road.

Donations will be accepted until Jan. 22, 2018.

Those who seek services at Project Community Connect are people with disabilities, veterans, as well as families with children. In 2017, more than 2,400 services were provided to 305 Missoulians with the help and support of 156 volunteers and 113 community organizations and businesses.

Missoula's Project Community Connect is part of a national movement and traditionally coincides with the Department of Housing and Urban Development Point in Time Survey, a homeless census that takes place every January.

The twelfth annual event is scheduled for Jan. 26, 2018 at Zootown Church, 3623 Brooks Street, Missoula.

Contact Missoula County Grants Administrator, Sindie Kennedy with questions at skennedy@missoulacounty.us or (406) 258-3688.

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