



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pre-Thanksgiving Donation Drive Motivates Students to Become Givers

Day of Service event engages more than 18,450 students from 33 Central Texas schools to gather food and coats to help those in need

Austin, Texas – November 15, 2011 – [A Legacy of Giving](#), a local nonprofit that teaches children the value of philanthropy as part of their school curriculum, will hold their third annual Day of Service event for participating Austin area K-12 students on Nov. 23, to kick-off the holiday with an act of giving. Organized by A Legacy of Giving to benefit the [Capital Area Food Bank](#) and [Coats for Kids](#), the Day of Service marks the official culmination of a student-led food and clothing drive currently taking place on more than 33 Austin area school campuses.

“It’s truly amazing, all the hard work our children have put into helping those around them with this major food and coat drive,” said Linda Brucker, executive director of A Legacy of Giving. “The Day of Service event is an exciting time for the children to celebrate their achievements and see how their efforts have helped the community.”

All participating Central Texas schools spent several weeks collecting clothing and food items with an overall goal to donate more than 55,000 pounds of food and 2,500 coats this year. During the Day of Service event, ten students and three teachers from each Legacy school will celebrate their school’s achievements and unload the food and coats at 10 a.m., Nov. 23 at the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas for the two charitable organizations to distribute during the holiday season. This year’s event marks the largest effort to date of philanthropic community giving by Austin and surrounding area school children.

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Students from 23 AISD and 9 faith-based schools (6 Catholic schools, 2 Muslim schools and 1 Jewish School) participated in this year's program. [PODS](#) also donated a container to each school to transport the collections to the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas for the distribution day.

"Last year, students with the Legacy program collected more than 55,500 pounds of food for the community," said Hank Perret, president and CEO of the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas. "It's great to see children at a young age being taught the importance of giving and helping those in need."

Founded in 2007, A Legacy of Giving empowers students to take action in their communities by offering hands-on philanthropy education programs and real-life projects. During the 2010-2011 school year, A Legacy of Giving schools returned more than \$322,000 of economic value to the Austin community as a result of two service learning programs; the first addressing poverty during the fall semester and the second addressing environmental stewardship during the spring semester.

Following the Day of Service event, both recipient charities will continue to collect items for those in need. Food donations for the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas can be dropped off on-site anytime except Wednesday, November 23. Monetary donations can be made online at www.austinfoodbank.org. Coats for Kids will be accepting donations of warm winter coats through December 7, 2011. Coats can be dropped off at any [Jack Brown Cleaners location](#) around Austin and monetary donations can be made online at www.jlaustin.org. The coats will be distributed to children in need on December 10, 2011 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Palmer Events Center.

About A Legacy of Giving:

Founded in 2007 under the umbrella of the Austin Community Foundation, A Legacy of Giving advanced its mission to empower children through philanthropy education to become more engaged in improving their communities and world. A Legacy of Giving believes if children learn to be compassionate at the earliest ages, they will continue to be engaged in their communities and offer their gifts of time, treasure, and talent as adults. A Legacy of Giving empowers students to take action in their communities by offering them well-planned, hands-on, real-life projects. The vision of A Legacy of Giving is to grow a generation of givers. www.alegacyofgiving.org

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About Capital Area Food Bank of Texas:

The mission of the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas (CAFB) is to nourish hungry people and lead the community in ending hunger. Since 1981, CAFB in collaboration with more than 300 partner agencies has been helping Central Texans in need by providing healthy food, nutritional program assistance and education, so they can make better choices at mealtime. Over the last 12 months, CAFB distributed 24 million pounds of food and grocery products and served 300,000 Central Texans in its 21 county service territory. For more information on the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas and its programs, visit www.austinfoodbank.org or call 512/282-2111.

About The Junior League of Austin's Coats for Kids:

Each year, The Junior League of Austin, Jack Brown Cleaners, KASE 101, and KVUE partner to bring the community together to ensure that the children of Central Texas stay warm. Now in its 25th year, Coats for Kids is an annual community project that collects and distributes warm winter coats to eligible children and teenagers in Central Texas. Last year, approximately 35,000 coats were donated and distributed to children in Central Texas to stay warm. For more information about The Junior League of Austin, call 512-467-8982, ext. 248 or visit www.jlaustin.org.

PODS:

Established in 1998, PODS provides Portable On Demand Storage® products and services and has recently evolved to also provide Portable On Demand Moving™ products and services. PODS is making moving and storage more convenient and less stressful. For more information on PODS call Vince Yungwirth at 512.748.4323 or visit www.pods.com.

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