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Award for City's Winter Clothing Drive

Compassion Church in Perris presented City officials with an award Tuesday for their efforts to collect winter clothing during a recent cold snap, which congregation members said they distributed to hundreds of underprivileged residents.

"You made a huge difference," said Chase McComack, a member of the City's Public Safety Commission and assistant pastor at Compassion Church. "Your support made this happen."

McComack and church member Dave Stewart addressed the City Council at its Jan. 28 meeting, showing a video that highlighted the clothing giveaway and other assistance efforts on behalf of the needy. They also presented the church's "Compassion Award 2013" to Assistant City Manager Ron Carr, who organized the collection of winter clothing at City Hall.

The City also contributed to a toy drive that results in 750 Christmas presents for needy kids, McComack said. Compassion Church then partnered with Innovative Horizons Charter School to collect 200 beanies and scarves and 3,000-pounds of food. The church topped off the holiday season by providing 650 pairs of shoes to Perris residents.

Carr said the City was pleased to lend a hand.

"The staff at the City of Perris take pride in serving the community," he said. "Seeing how we were able to assist Compassion Church in their clothing drive was very gratifying."

McComack and church member Dave Stewart, who presented the award to Carr, also are enthusiastic supporters of the City's "Live Well Perris" healthy-eating active-living initiative. Church members have attended Saturday morning workouts, enrolled in the City's version of the biggest loser contest and are spreading the word about the benefits of exercise and healthy eating.

McComack said Perris is a "wonderful, beautiful City" because its elected officials and municipal staff are committed to listening to suggestions from the community to improve the lives of its residents.

"It's nice to have a voice, and nicer still to know that voice is being listened to," McComack said.



Compassion Church member Dave Stewart presents an award to Assistant City Manager Ron Carr for helping with the congregation's winter-clothing outreach.

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