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## Compassionate Donations Keep the Needy Warm

Perris employees responded quickly to a plea for warm clothing from a City church, donating three bins of winter coats, hats, hoodies, shirts and scarves for distribution to underprivileged residents in just two days.

“There will be a lot of happy and warm people in the community tonight,” said Jerome Clay, senior pastor at Compassion Church in Downtown Perris, who led a contingent from the congregation to pick up the donations. “I am delighted that the City of Perris has partnered with our church to help the people in this community who are lacking. It’s amazing, nothing short of amazing.”

Church representatives met earlier this week with Assistant City Manager Ron Carr and asked for assistance in publicizing their clothing outreach effort. The City immediately placed several large bins in its main administration building. An email was sent out to all Perris employees. Within two days, donations filled three collection boxes.

Clay said that the church will distribute the clothing this weekend and throughout the winter season. The congregation also will hand out 400 pairs of new shoes on Dec. 21.

Clay said that while Perris enjoys moderate weather most of the time, during the winter months the chill is often hard to escape when night falls.

“When the sun goes down, it gets cold,” he said.

Another church member, Dave Stewart, thanked the City for taking the lead in collecting winter wear.

“You are the hero,” he said. “You are lots of peoples’ hero.”

Carr said the City will continue collecting winter clothing for Compassion Church until Jan. 1. The church is located at Perris Boulevard and Fifth Street.

“No one should have to go without warm clothing,” Carr said. “I’m glad that the City of Perris was able to help Compassion Church in its efforts.”



Compassion Church of Perris members Chase McComack and Patrick Thaler load donations collected from City of Perris employees for distribution to needy residents this winter.