



**PRESS RELEASE**  
Local News  
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### **Hope Ministries distributes over 2,000 coats to those in need**

DES MOINES—Thanks to the donations of generous community members, Hope Ministries has distributed more than 2,000 donated coats and other winter wear items to homeless and near-homeless men, women and children in central Iowa this winter.

Over 400 coats were donated by the community through this year's *Warm Coats & Warm Hearts Drive*, sponsored by the national organization One Warm Coat and Burlington Coat Factory. In Des Moines, coats were donated and collected at the Burlington store on Merle Hay Road.

In addition, 1,000 children's coats were donated to Hope Ministries by the national apparel store chain, Aeropostale.

"We're so grateful both to Burlington Coat Factory and Aeropostale, and to the many churches and other groups, for joining with us to help individuals and families stay warm during this cold winter season," said Hope Ministries President/CEO Leon Negen. "We're also appreciative of all those who donated coats and winter wear items."

Also, many churches and other groups in central Iowa sponsored donation drives for coats and winter wear items which were also given away by Hope Ministries. All coats and winter wear items were given away free to men, women and children in need. In addition to hosting a winter wear giveaway in December, Hope Ministries also donated winter wear items to Cooperative Refugee Services to be distributed free to those in need of warm winter clothing.

*Hope Ministries is a privately funded organization providing food, clothing, shelter, and recovery services to homeless and hungry men, women and children in Des Moines and throughout Iowa since 1915. To learn more, visit [www.hopeiowa.org](http://www.hopeiowa.org).*

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