



“Partnering with people who have developmental disabilities to achieve healthy, fulfilling, enriched lives.”

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CLEVELAND NON-PROFIT CLIENTS GIVE BACK TO THEIR COMMUNITY
Individuals with developmental disabilities hold sock drive to benefit local charities

February 5, 2010—Grateful for the care they receive, Koinonia individuals with developmental disabilities are opening their hearts to community members who need their support. Through *Warm Feet for Cleveland* more than 400 socks will be donated to local non-profits, The City Mission and Berea Children’s Home and Family Services on **Friday, February 12th**.

Warm Feet for Cleveland is a charity drive developed by a small group of Koinonia individuals with developmental disabilities who wanted to provide warmth to others. While coats are a natural giveaway, they tend to be an expensive gift for a special needs individual to donate. Socks, however, are just as crucial!

“There is so much therapeutic value for our consumers because all of their lives they are the recipients of care,” says De Ann Brewer, Vocational Services Manager for Koinonia Enterprises. “This process creates a tremendous amount of self confidence for them to be the ones on the *giving* end.”

Beginning this winter, Koinonia individuals formed two teams—White Socks and Red Socks—and began reaching out to family members and friends. Donations came from California, Oregon, Florida, New York, Texas, Pennsylvania and even India, totaling 429 pairs. This total far surpasses the individuals’ expectations of 100 socks for this first-time charity drive.

As donations poured in, consumers were charged with tracking socks, announcing progress and learning information about each state (and country). Each team also researched which charity they felt should receive the donations. Team members will make the trip to hand-deliver their donations the afternoon of Friday, February 12th in time for Valentine’s Day.

About Koinonia Homes, Inc.

Koinonia Homes, Inc. (coin-o-nee-yah) is a private, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides residential and vocational services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) throughout Cuyahoga County, Ohio. Recently ranked 22nd out of the largest non-profits in Northeast Ohio by *Crain’s Cleveland Business Magazine*, Koinonia spans 20 communities and is the largest private provider of IDD services in the county. Koinonia’s mission is partnering with people who have developmental disabilities to achieve healthy, fulfilling, enriched lives. Visit www.koinoniahomes.org to learn more about the organization.