



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, November 17, 2008

Thousands of Blankets and Sleeping Bags Needed for Homeless Community

With supplies depleted, Front Steps organizes Blanket Raiser for clients

Austin, Texas — Front Steps, the managing nonprofit of the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH), is asking the community to donate blankets and sleeping bags to help keep Austin's homeless population warm this winter.

Front Steps has been distributing blankets and sleeping bags from the front doors of the ARCH over the last two weeks in advance of last weekend's cold front.

Now those supplies are depleted and the time to gather more blankets and sleeping bags is NOW.

Donations of blankets, twin-size or larger, or money with which blankets may be purchased, should be brought to the ARCH, which is located at 500 East Seventh in the downtown area from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm. For more information, please call 512-305-4100.

In addition to blankets, Front Steps is asking the public for donations of socks, sleeping bags, men's jackets, and coats.

Information about Front Steps can be found at www.frontsteps.org.

Tokyo Electron is one of several groups that have organized a company-wide blanket drive. They plan to drop off supplies today at the ARCH.

MEDIA ALERT

Event: Tokyo Electron Blanket Delivery
When: Monday, November 17, 2008
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: The Austin Resource Center for the Homeless
500 East Seventh Street

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ABOUT FRONT STEPS:

Front Steps is a nonprofit organization that manages the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH), the Central Texas Recuperative Care Center, and the Keep Austin Housed AmeriCorps Program, as well as transitional and permanent housing programs. Front Steps was founded in 1997 as the Capital Area Homeless Alliance. Front Steps relies on the Austin community for donations of soap, shampoo, razors, toothbrushes, clothing and in the winter, blankets and new white socks. More information can be found at <http://www.frontsteps.org>.

ABOUT THE ARCH:

The ARCH, managed by Front Steps, is a day resource center, an emergency overnight shelter and a homeless health clinic. The day resource center provides clients access to showers, lockers, laundry facilities, clothing, telephones, mail and messaging services, community referrals, and case management. The ARCH also features ten co-located nonprofit organizations that provide a variety of vital services, including physical and mental health care, legal assistance, and job placement.