



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, December 1, 2008

Burlington Coat Factory, One Warm Coat and Good Morning America Partner to Provide Coats to the Homeless

Second Annual Warm Coats & Warm Hearts Drive Reaches Austin

Austin, Texas — The Second Annual Warm Hearts & Warm Coats Drive is in full swing. The drive to ensure that homeless and low income folks stay warm on cold days is a collaborative effort of several organizations: Front Steps (nonprofit manager of the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless/ARCH), Burlington Coat Factory (the retail authority in coats), One Warm Coat (a national nonprofit organization that assists in the donation of free coats), and ABC's Good Morning America. Anyone wishing to donate coats for men, women, or children can do so in the drop-off boxes at the Burlington Coat Factory stores located at 6600 Middle Fiskville Road and at 13749 N Highway 183. Coats should be in good condition, with working fasteners, and no rips or stains. Donors will receive a receipt for tax purposes.

Coats will be distributed to Austin's homeless by Front Steps, the nonprofit organization that manages the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, in downtown Austin. Front Steps serves approximately 8,000 homeless men and women each year. Front Steps also distributes blankets on nights when the temperature falls below 50 degrees, adds an additional 50 mats on nights that the temperature falls below 40 degrees, and implements the Cold Weather Shelter on nights the temperature is expected to freeze.

“Donating one warm coat is a simple and doable way to show those in need that you care,” said Sherri Wood, President of One Warm Coat, “and the generosity of Burlington Coat Factory and Good Morning America is making the process easy for volunteers to do just that. We and the people we serve are grateful.”

The 2007 Warm Coats & Warm Hearts Drive resulted in the collection of more than 175,000 coats for people in need across the country.

For more information or to find a list of Burlington Coat Factory stores, visit www.BurlingtonCoatFactory.com. For more information about One Warm Coat please visit www.onewarmcoat.org or www.onewarmcoat.org/sponsorshipopportunities2.html.

For information about how Front Steps is helping Austin individuals without homes, please visit www.frontsteps.org.

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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>.