

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

COATS

FOR KIDS



FAITH IN ACTION

COMMUNITY

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HISTORY

PROGRAM HISTORY

Did you know that many children throughout the United States and Canada go without a coat each winter? Low-income families use their scarce resources to meet the most basic needs and cannot always afford this vital winter necessity.

That's why the Knights of Columbus developed the Coats for Kids program, which allows councils across North America the opportunity to put their faith into action and purchase new winter coats at a discount for children in need in their communities.

More than 500,000 new winter coats have been distributed throughout the United States and Canada since the program began in 2009.



COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

This program's primary goal is to help kids stay warm in the winter when a child's family does not have the resources to adequately meet this need. A warm coat means a child can more realistically attend school, go to after-school programs, fit in with other children, play and do all the things that kids do to be kids. In a very real sense, a warm winter coat means mobility. Our mission is to make this seemingly small part of life a little bit easier for these families.

The secondary goal of the Coats for Kids program is to better connect your council with your parish and your community. Let the people around you see the good works of your council, so that they want to support it and be a part of it.



MEMBERSHIP



MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Set up a Knights of Columbus membership booth at the Coat Distribution to allow parents the chance to learn more about the Knights of Columbus.

Hold a church drive a week after the distribution to give men a chance to learn about the program and the good works of the Knights of Columbus.

INFORMATION

COAT INFORMATION (UNITED STATES & CANADA)

We offer three different prepackaged size categories for purchase by your council:

<i>Small Prepack (12 coats) – kindergarten through second grade</i>		<i>Standard Prepack (12 Coats) – second grade through eighth grade</i>		<i>Teen Size Prepacks (12 Coats)</i>
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys & Girls
(2) 4	(2) 4	(2) 8	(4) 7/8	(4) Small
(6) 6	(6) 5/6	(4) 10-12	(6) 10/12	(4) Medium
(4) 7	(4) 6X	(4) 14/16	(2) 14/16	(2) Large
		(2) 18		(2) X-Large

LIGHTWEIGHT COATS FOR WARM CLIMATES

Lightweight coats are available for those areas with mild winters. Lightweight coats are available on Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online. Each case will contain 24 coats.

<i>Light weight Prepack (24 Coats) – second grade through eighth grade</i>	
Boys	Girls
(4) 8	(8) 7/8
(8) 10-12	(12) 10/12
(8) 14/16	(4) 14/16
(4) 18	

PRICING

Every Knights of Columbus council is eligible to participate in the Coats for Kids program. Pricing will always be in the best interest of the council and will depend on the market and vendor each year. Visit Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online in the United States and knightsgear.ca in Canada for current pricing.



PUBLICITY

PUBLICIZING YOUR EVENT

One of the best ways to make sure your council's Coats for Kids program is a success is to publicize it. The program must always be referred to as the **Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids**.

After setting up a location, date and time for the Coats for Kids distribution, use the sample press release on www.kofc.org/coats.

Retype it, double-spaced, on council letterhead, filling in the necessary information by listing who, what, when and

where of your council's Coats for Kids distribution. Make sure to include the name and phone number of a contact person.

Ask editors to publish a reminder close to the date of the distribution or to list it in the community or parish calendar. Talk with assignment editors and suggest Coats for Kids as a great opportunity for a featured story. Make arrangements for a story about the distribution. Personally deliver or send a write-up along with photos to the editors of both the local and diocesan newspaper.

RESPONSIBILITIES

CHAIRMAN ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Contact your jurisdiction leadership to inquire about assisting in a Coats for Kids event or coordinating one in your own community.
- Organize a Coats for Kids distribution. Set a date, time and location.
- Go through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online in the United States and knightsgear.ca in Canada to order your coats and to get current pricing information. Please allow several weeks for shipping.
- Promote the Coats for Kids drive in the community by displaying the Coats for Kids poster in your parish and around the community.
- Bring the drive to the attention of local media using the sample press release provided on www.kofc.org/coats.
- After the distribution, debrief with your council on strengths and weaknesses of the event to improve for next year.
- Complete associated Report Forms and submit them to the Supreme Council.

Build toward your Community program requirement for the Columbian and Star Council Awards with TWO credits for this featured program!

FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I order coats?

Councils should order their coats through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online in the United States and knightsgear.ca in Canada.

How much does a case of Coats cost? How much is shipping?

Please check Supplies Online, which can be accessed through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online in the United States or knightsgear.ca in Canada for current coat costs. Shipping is UPS ground and will be determined at the time of purchase.

How many coats are in a case?

A heavyweight case contains 12 coats. A lightweight case contains 24 coats.

Do cases come with a mix of boys and girls? Can I customize my case? Is there a mix of styles?

Cases come with either all boys' or all girls' coats, each with a diverse assortment of sizes. We cannot mix boys' and girls' coats together and we cannot customize your order based on style preference. However, please note that when multiple cases are ordered, each case will contain a different style than the last.

How does shipping work? How long does delivery take?

Shipping takes several weeks from the date of order. Tracking information will be emailed upon shipment.

What are my Payment options in the United States?

Council can order by credit card or chargeback through the web when ordering your coats through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online.

What are my Payment options in Canada?

Councils can order by credit card through knightsgear.ca

PROGRAM IDEAS

Below is a list of potential partners for your Coats for Kids program:

Councils should order their coats through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online in the United States and knightsgear.ca in Canada.

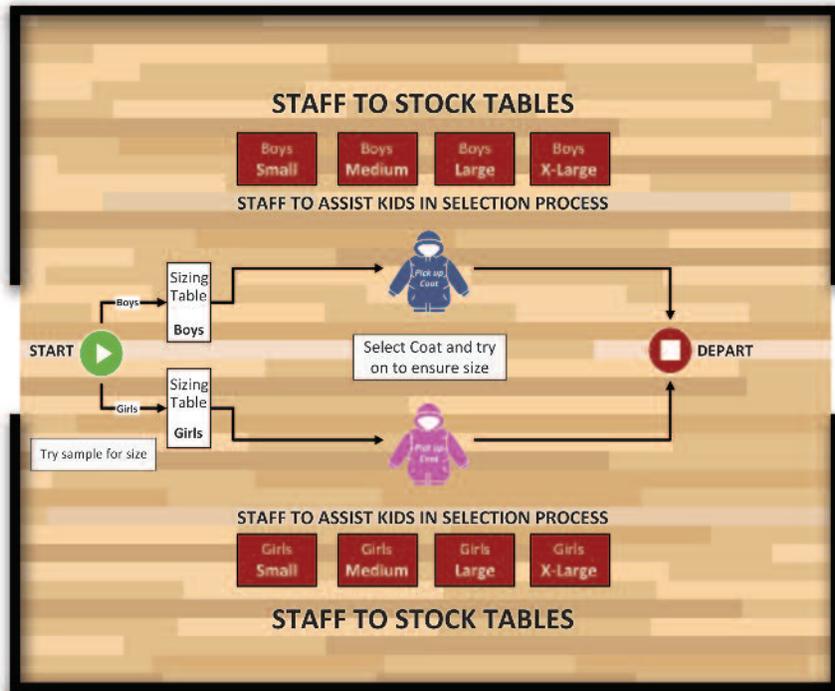
- **Schools** — Approach community schools in low income areas.
- **Soup Kitchens** — Ask parish leaders about maintaining a stock of kids' coats at the soup kitchen.
- **Police Department** — We have found that approaching a police department and offering them free coats works well for community policing models. Police can keep coats in their squad cars and hand out as needed.
- **Social Services** — Reach out to social services in your community.
- **Parish** — Ask a local pastor if a case of coats can be left at the church to be distributed as needed.



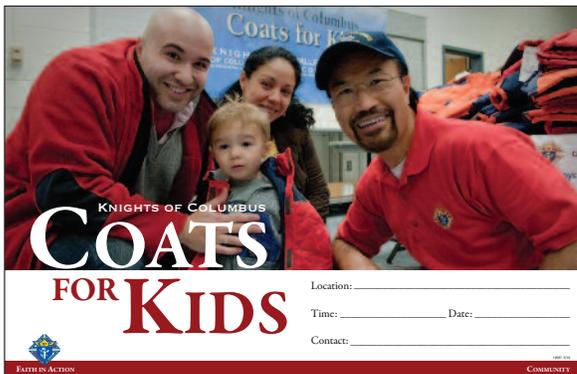
RESOURCES

COATS FOR KIDS DISTRIBUTION FLOWCHART

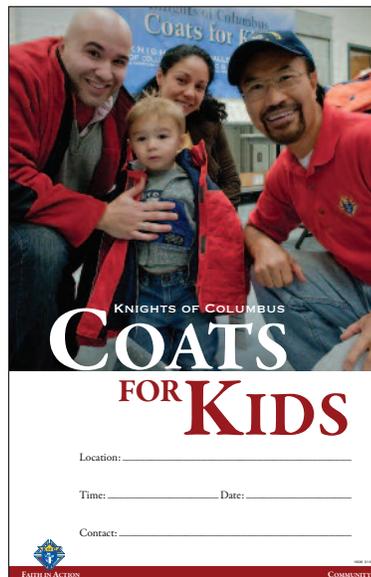
This sample flowchart diagram helps councils set up their room for a Coats distribution. The layout helps the flow of traffic move easier around the room.



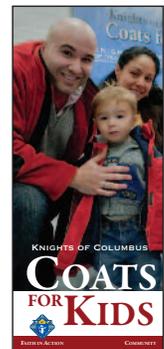
The Supreme Council offers the below items for order through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online.



Promotional Poster – Horizontal (#10587)



Promotional Poster – Vertical (#10586)



Coats for Kids Trifold (#10503)



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