

# KIRK♥care

Lending a Helping Hand Since 1982

***Thank you to all our community partners who made our Christmas Box a success.***



*Thank you to our North Kirkwood Middle School Volunteers*



**->Leaders Among Us Class 2023<-**

**->By: Lola Bileddo and Kennedy Waack.<-**

North Kirkwood Middle School

This holiday season North Kirkwood Middle School did a collection for Kirk Care to help those in need in our community by getting them necessary items. As middle schoolers we didn't just go out collecting various items, we had a plan, but what was that plan?

The Leaders Among Us Class at North Kirkwood Middle School helped KirkCare in a large amount, but how did they help? To begin, we first started drafting a plan. As a class we needed to find a way to spread the word around our school. Kinsey Tyler, a student in the Leaders Among Us Class said, " Until KirkCare was introduced to my Leader Among Us Class, I had no idea that it did so much for the Kirkwood community."

One of our first projects was that we made a rivalry video against Nipher Middle School to tell our school/community we are here to win the North vs Nipher Kirk Care Battle. The battle was a competition between the two schools to see which school could bring in more items for the Kirk Care drive. After learning that hygiene products were a large problem in Kirkwood we based the drive on bringing the most amount of those items in as we could. After the video was made, we put together 3 different videos for Keysor, Tillman and Westchester elementary and 1 for KECC. We wanted to spread the word to the whole district and explain why they should help Kirk Care.

The videos are not the only thing that advertised the collection drive. The Leaders Among Us students made Kirk Care posters and put them all around the school. We also went in groups around the school sharing about Kirk Care and why students should bring in items. One last thing we did was put videos and the informational poster in the weekly newsletter so parents could also see and make sure they help their children bring things in. What would go on the informational poster? Dates and more, but the point system as well. Both middle schools had a system of 10-point items, 5-point items, and 1-point items. The 10-point items were hygiene products. The 5-point products were different types of canned food. The 1-point items were tomato products, pasta, different beans, and corn. This was an easy way for us to get all the products organized. We needed a solid plan for pickup day at North. First, North needed to get additional people to help us with pick-up day for the products . After we did, we needed to think of a way to collect the products without carrying them. Thankfully, we thought of a way. We got unmade cardboard boxes and got them ready for North to put their cans in during the collection. We asked Khloe Grant, another student from the Leaders Among Us Class and asked, how do these little things make you feel knowing you're helping the community? Khloe Grant said, "I'm very grateful that I could help families in my community!"

The pick-up day for the items came around. The Leaders Among Us Class all had the game plan and we were ready to help! We started the day by collecting our school's items. Based upon the point system for our competition with Nipher, North ended up with 17,026 items and Nipher ended up with 20,606 items. For individual grade competition at North, eighth graders brought in 348 items, seventh graders brought in 1237 items , and sixth graders brought in 1244 items. We went to Keysor Elementary, Kirkwood Early Childhood Center, Tillman Elementary, North Glendale Elementary, Westchester Elementary, and Nipher Middle School shortly after and collected all the products. We asked Jude Nixon, one of the students who joined us, how was the time going to all the schools? Jude stated, "It was cool to visit all the schools in the district. It was fun helping the people in need." Another student who joined, Zoe Lyyons, said, "It was fun going and doing it with my friends." Lastly, we spent over 2

hours at the church that held donations organizing all the products. Working together to get where we are now, we were able to accomplish so much for the community.

The North Kirkwood Leaders Among Us class overall had a fantastic experience helping the Kirkwood community. One student, Ocean Foster, was asked why he thinks the students helped participate in Kirk Care, he replied, "To help the people that need it, and to make our community better. That's cool."

North Kirkwood Middle School is very proud and honored to have the opportunity to collect materials when others couldn't do it alone. We all are happy the community got what they needed to help bring joy during the holiday season.

### ->The Kirkcare Food Collection <-

### ->By London Swank (Keysor Elementary)<-

The Kirk Care Food Collection is a competition between Keysor Elementary and Avery Elementary(in the Webster Groves school district) to see who can collect the most food and or items for charity. They said food, and items are: Canned meat, pasta, coffee, detergent, and cereal.

Keysor ended up collecting 1,500 food and items. However, Avery Elementary ended up winning with a whopping 3,000 food and items!

However, keep in mind that this is just for fun, and for charity, so it's a friendly competition. It's all for a good cause! All together, we collected 4,500 food and items for charity! We did good, and really helped out charity.

Maybe in the future, we could collect even more food and items! As long as we try hard, which I'm sure we will, and can! Have fun, and help charity!

That's the Kirkcare Food Collection! ~from Keysor Elementary

*Thank you Kirkwood Community*



Dr. Suveetha Mikkili at West Monroe Dental hosted a food drive and doubled the number of items in \$

Cole collected over 240 items from his neighborhood collection

Prana Yoga raised \$453 for Kirk care

First Community in Kirkwood hosted a food drive



Kirk Care Drop Box

### Donations

Kirkwood YMCA-325 N. Taylor

Kirkwood Train Station - 110 W. Argonne Dr ( Corner of Argonne & Kirkwood Road)

Kirkwood Library-140 East Jefferson

Kirkwood Community Center - 111 S. Geyer Rd (Entrance By Ice Rink)

Webster Groves Methodist Church

Fellowship Building-1333 West Lockwood, 63122

Concordia Lutheran Church-505 S. Kirkwood Road



**CITY OF KIRKWOOD**  
KIRKWOOD UTILITIES  
P.O. BOX 220579  
KIRKWOOD, MO 63122-0579

ACCOUNT NUMBER: xxxxxxxxxxx-xxxx

**KIRKcare**

By checking this box I want to help Kirkwood neighbors struggling to pay their utility bills. I wish to contribute  
 \$\_\_\_\_.00 this month or  \$\_\_\_\_.00 each month in future

See back side of bill for more information.

Monetary donations can be made by adding to the City of Kirkwood utility bill. These donations help clients with utility bills and food vouchers to receive fresh foods.

**For more information about Kirk Care**

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