



LOCAL BOY SCOUT PACKS AND TROOPS TO COLLECT SHOES FOR SOLES4SOULS

Used shoe collection drive in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky communities helps fight poverty, create a cleaner environment, and provide hope to thousands in need

CINCINNATI (Jan. 22, 2019) – 1.2 billion people live on less than \$1.90 per day – and many don't have access to one of life's most basic necessities: a good pair of shoes. Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops in Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky are working to change that, with a goal of collecting 25,000 pairs of shoes from community members on **Scout Sunday, February 3, 2019**. The shoes will be donated to Soles4Souls, a non-profit organization that distributes shoes to those in need. This year, Dan Beard Council is happy to partner with Walmart as store locations will serve as the main collection points throughout the tri-state area.

Local Scouts and Walmart employees will be volunteering at each of the drop-off sites to help collect the shoes. Over the next few weeks, customers at the drop-off locations will see event flyers in their bags as well as on social media. **Shoes can be dropped off at Walmart locations from 11am until 2pm, and the Scout Achievement Center, the Scout Headquarters in Evandale, from 11am until 3pm on Sunday, February 3rd**. The drop-off locations are as follows:

- Walmart Eastgate – 4370 Eastgate Square Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45245
- Walmart Evendale – 2801 Cunningham Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45241
- Walmart Forest Fair – 1143 Smiley Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45240
- Walmart Alexandria – 6711 Alexandria Pike, Alexandria, KY 41001
- Walmart Western Hills – 2322 Ferguson Road, Cincinnati, OH 45238
- Scout Achievement Center – 10078 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241

The 3rd Annual Soles4Souls collection drive organized by the Dan Beard Council is a council-wide community service project for local scouts who are looking to help make an impact for our community. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts will collect used shoes at organizations throughout Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, including local Walmart locations, schools, churches, and the Dan Beard Council office in Evendale. The collected shoes will be distributed by Soles4Souls in regions where they are needed most, from third-world nations to communities within the United States.

The Dan Beard Council's units (packs, troops, and crews) have been dedicated to helping Soles4Souls over the past three years. Over 33,000 pairs of shoes have been collected by the Dan Beard Council's local Boy Scout packs in the 2017 and 2018 Shoe Drives. From 2017 to the present, nearly 500 Scout units all over the tri-state area have participated in the drive. Also, Scouts, leaders, and volunteers accounted for nearly 3,200 service hours during the 2017 & 2018 collection.

"An important aspect of the Scout Oath is that members will do their best to help other people at all times," said Jeff Taylor at the Dan Beard Council. "The council-wide Soles4Souls project is a great way for our Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts to involve the community and make a meaningful impact by helping people in need around the world."

For more information about the project, please visit <http://www.danbeard.org/soles4souls>.

ABOUT THE DAN BEARD COUNCIL

The Dan Beard Council covers five Ohio counties (Butler, Warren, Hamilton, Clermont and Brown) and seven Kentucky counties (Boone, Kenton, Campbell, Gallatin, Owen, Grant and Pendleton). Serving more than 30,000 families and led by over 6,000 volunteers, the Dan Beard Council provides a program of character development, citizenship training and personal fitness to youth from ages 5 through 21.

ABOUT SOLES4SOULS

Since 2018, Soles4Souls has collected and distributed 30 million pairs of shoes to those in need in 127 countries around the world and all 50 states in the U.S. Every day children are prevented from attending school, adults are unable to work. Walking becomes unbearable. A new pair of shoes provides relief in many developing nations around the globe, in times of disaster, and helps bridge the economic gap in the United States and Canada.

*Source: Soles4Souls. *Council Soles4Souls Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxHHGfcpHAY>

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