

17 Years Of Warming Kids With Coats

There was a hard rain one winter day. Kyle Thompson remembers two children coming into his office wrapped in blankets, trying to keep the rain off.

"When they left they were wearing jackets and carrying the blankets," says Thompson, who does the coat handouts

for Coats for Kids. As Thompson remembers that particular incident and others, he can't help but think how many children Coats for Kids has blessed.

KSEE 24 adopted the program 17 years ago. Each year, about 10,000 coats can be distributed, according to Captain

Richard Larson with the Salvation Army.

The winters are cold. Many families struggle to provide the basic warmth needed for their children. There is a strong need for new or gently used coats for the Valley's children.



KSEE 24 and the Companies You Count On team up with KISS Country 93.7 FM to encourage Valley residents to donate coats. Collections start in November and continue into December.

Once the coats have been collected by the Salvation Army and cleaned by One-Hour Martinizing, they are distributed through the school systems. Administrators and teachers decide a child's needs and try to find the perfect coat in the perfect size for each of those children.

"A need hasn't gone away," Larson says. "It is a great reminder to save your coats."

When the need is fulfilled in a child's life, it isn't forgotten.

"I get thank-you letters from kids," Thompson says. Some letters say, 'I like the jacket. It keeps me warm.' Another letter he remembers said something like, 'I like the jacket and my cat does too.'

When such a basic, but necessary, need is filled in a child's life it makes a big difference for the parents, also.

Thompson remembers a mother with a baby coming into his office. "I gave her a jacket for her child and she was so happy she started crying."

There is a need for coats again this year. KSEE 24 and its supporting partners remind businesses, friends and neighbors to donate winter coats for children and teenagers in need.

To drop off a coat now through the beginning of December, visit one of these sponsoring locations: Gottschalks, Warner Co., Enterprise Rent-A-Car, One-Hour Martinizing and the KSEE 24 studios at 5035 E. McKinley Ave.

For more information, visit the KSEE 24 Web site at www.ksee24.com and click on Companies You Count On. It's easy to make a difference in a child's life this winter season.



IN REAL ESTATE THEY SAY IT'S ABOUT ...

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

AFFORDABILITY, LIFESTYLE, COMMUNITY, WALKING TRAILS,

PARKS, POOL, SCHOOLS, MOUNTAINS, EXCLUSIVITY,

MINUTES TO THE SIERRAS, YOUR SEARCH IS OVER.



**WELL, THEY'RE RIGHT.
THE PERFECT PLACE FOR YOUR PERFECT
NEW HOME IS HARLAN RANCH.**

Don't wait another day. You can now choose your dream home at Harlan Ranch. For more information about choosing your perfect home in the Valley's most esteemed neighborhood, Harlan Ranch, drive over to our new Information Center at Shepherd and Highway 168 in Clovis and request our new brochure. Call 559-325-9430 or visit www.harlan-ranch.com today.

HOMES BUILT BY
WILSON HOMES
A Tradition of Building Excellence.


HARLAN RANCH
A CLOVIS COMMUNITY

HOMES BUILT BY
**WATHEN
CASTANOS**
AAA
LICENSE #665730