



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **YMCA of Greater St. Louis Partners with In God's Hands for Warm-Up Winter Coat Drive**

*Drive will Collect Coats for Children in the Ferguson Community and Surrounding Counties*

**St. Louis, MO (January 13, 2015)** – The YMCA of Greater St. Louis has partnered with In God's Hands for the Warm-Up Winter Coat Drive to collect winter coats for children in need in the Ferguson area and surrounding counties. New or slightly used coats for elementary, middle and high school-aged children are being collected in all Y branch lobbies through Sunday, January 18.

"With the winter months upon us, many families need help providing winter coats for their children," said Tim Helm, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater St. Louis. "We have set a goal of collecting 500 coats for children in and around the Ferguson community and we know that we can count on Y members and the community to help us get to that goal."

According to In God's Hands, it is expected that of the 500 coat recipients at schools in Ferguson, Normandy and Jennings, at least 190 are homeless.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Y for this important drive," said Walt Roddy, director of In God's Hands. "It is important to get these warm coats in the hands of families in need to help ease some of the burden the winter months can bring."

To find a Y location near you, please visit [www.ymcastlouis.org/locations](http://www.ymcastlouis.org/locations).

### **About the YMCA of Greater St. Louis**

The YMCA of Greater St. Louis is a nonprofit organization dedicated to youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Featuring 17 traditional Y branches and two Campus Y student leadership facilities on the Missouri side of the St. Louis Metro Area, our Y also includes YMCA Camp Lakewood and Trout Lodge in Potosi, Missouri. The Carondelet Park Rec Complex and O'Fallon Park Rec Complex are owned by the City of St. Louis and operated by the Y. Our Y is a proud member of the United Way. For more information, please visit [www.ymcastlouis.org](http://www.ymcastlouis.org) or call 314-436-1177.

### **YMCA OF GREATER ST. LOUIS**

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**About In God's Hands**

In God's Hands is a small, St. Louis-based charity organization that provides the basic necessities to local families facing desperate living situations. The program is funded by generous donations, particularly in association with area parishes, and works closely with St. Vincent DePaul charity. In God's Hands has touched the lives of approximately 5,000 clients thus far.

For more information about how to get involved and make a difference in the lives of St. Louis families, contact In God's Hands' director, Walt Roddy, at 314-322-8398.

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