



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Patrick S. Blacklock
County Administrator

Beth Gabor
Manager of Operations & Strategy

625 Court Street, Room 202 ▪ Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 666-8042 ▪ FAX (530) 668-4029
www.yolocounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 16, 2017

Contact: Beth Gabor, Public Information Officer
(530) 666-8042 [w] ▪ (530) 219-8464 [c]

Public Defender's Office Hosts Annual Clothing Drive Dec 1-Mar 31

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Public Defender's Office's Social Work Program announces the return of its used clothing drive to benefit indigent clients as they transition from the Yolo County jail back into the community.

In its first year, the clothing drive received wonderful support from the community, resulting in the ability to help some of the county's neediest residents starting as early as January 2017. In addition to directly helping 37 homeless and indigent individuals coming out of jail, the post-release clothing closet was able to stock clothes and personal hygiene products at the county's Health & Human Services Agency's satellite office and Northern California Construction Training's Woodland campus, both of which also assist those recently released. The satellite office is located next to the jail, so individuals releasing from custody are easily able to access clean, weather-appropriate clothing and/or hygiene supplies while (re)applying for public benefits. Northern California Construction Training provides construction trade training to those recently released from jail; the on-hand availability of safe, appropriate work attire assists these individuals in gaining employment. Thanks to the generosity of the community, the 2016-17 clothing drive enabled the post-release clothing closet to provide to individuals in need: 71 pairs of new underwear and 62 pairs of new socks; 103 shirts; 57 pairs of pants; 38 jackets; 10 hats; 24 bags/purses; 47 hygiene kits; and 11 pairs of shoes.

This year, the Public Defender's Office is again requesting donations of gently used clothing. Some of the most requested items include new socks and underwear, backpacks and shoes. There is higher demand for men's clothing and for larger sizes (large, x-large and xx-large), but donations for both genders and all sizes are welcome.

“Living without shelter and sleeping on hard surfaces for our homeless population is an unfortunate, unsafe and uncomfortable reality, even under the best weather,” said Yolo County Public Defender Tracie Olson. “By providing cold weather-appropriate clothing and other supplies to our less fortunate fellow residents, we hope to provide a cleaner and healthier living situation to help them get through the winter season, lessen their need for emergency services and give them a degree of physical and emotional warmth they do not always receive. Your donations are greatly appreciated!”

Starting in December and running through March, donated items can be dropped off at the lobby of the Public Defender's Office, located at 814 North Street in Woodland, Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For more information, contact the Public Defender Social Worker Program at (530) 666-8165, x9954.

###