



**Contact:** Eileen Sullivan (Rubenstein Communications), 212-843-8016, [esullivan@rubenstein.com](mailto:esullivan@rubenstein.com)

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BENJAMIN TUCKER AND NBA LEGEND NATE “TINY” ARCHIBALD KICKOFF THE 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NEW YORK CARES COAT DRIVE**

*New York Cares Has Received Requests for 100,000 Coats*

(New York, NY, November 17, 2014) – New York Police Department First Deputy Commissioner Benjamin B. Tucker and NBA Legend Nate “Tiny” Archibald joined New York Cares today at The Bowery Mission on the Lower East Side to launch the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual New York Cares Coat Drive.

From today through Wednesday, December 31, 2014 individuals can donate gently used, freshly laundered coats at hundreds of locations throughout the five boroughs including all NYPD Police Precincts, New York Penn Station, Grand Central Terminal and many other sites. The New York Cares Coat Drive is in its 26<sup>th</sup> year and is an annual citywide tradition that has collected 1.6 million winter coats for men, women and children in need throughout the city since 1989.

Joined by Commissioner Tucker and NBA legend Nate Archibald, New York Cares distributed coats to 50 homeless residents of The Bowery Mission.

“The New York City Police Department is honored to once again collaborate with New York Cares for their 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Coat Drive. Coats may be dropped off at every precinct, transit district and police service area across the city, day or night,” said First Deputy Commissioner Benjamin Tucker. “In years past, the generous spirit of New Yorkers has made the NYPD the largest single contributor to the drive, and we look forward to another plentiful season of giving.”

“This year, the need for donated coats has again surpassed what we typically collect,” said Gary Bagley, Executive Director of New York Cares. “We expect requests to exceed 100,000 coats this year and we only received 80,000 winter coats a year ago. In order to close this gap, we require donations from New Yorkers throughout the five boroughs to help everyone who calls New York City home get through another cold winter.”

“The New York Cares Coat Drive is one of those iconic events that demonstrate the real generosity of New Yorkers for those in need. It truly benefits the men and women served by The Bowery Mission,” said Ed Morgan, President and CEO of The Bowery Mission. “We are proud to be part of this tradition.”

New York Cares’ iconic ‘Shivering Statue of Liberty’ Coat Drive PSA will air on the **TOSHIBA VISION** screens located at the top of One Times Square to raise awareness of the Coat Drive from Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup>.

**About The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual New York Cares Coat Drive**

The New York Cares Coat Drive is one of the largest of its kind in the United States. Since 1989, New York Cares has collected and distributed 1.6 million coats.

The thousands of donated coats will be counted, sorted and distributed to organizations serving the homeless and other low-income New Yorkers, at an 8,600 square foot temporary warehouse space located at 157 West 31st Street in midtown Manhattan.

The sponsors for this year's New York Cares Coat Drive are **the New York City Police Department, the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), Vornado Realty Trust, Toshiba, NBC 4 New York and Telemundo 47, WBLS 107.5 FM, and Time Warner Cable.**

New Yorkers can make financial donations in support of the Coat Drive and New York Cares' year-round work online, by text or by mail. For more information about the New York Cares Coat Drive, locations, news, or to make a financial donation, the public can visit [www.newyorkcares.org](http://www.newyorkcares.org) or call 646-801-4022.

### **Where to Donate Coats**

New Yorkers can donate gently-used, freshly laundered coats at almost 300 public sites around the city, as well as hundreds of private sites hosted by corporations and civic groups.

New Yorkers may donate coats at the following locations through Wednesday, December 31, 2014. Please visit [newyorkcares.org](http://newyorkcares.org) for exact times and locations, and additional collection sites.

- Every New York City Police Precinct (24 hours a day)
- Every library branch in the Queens Public Library system (during open hours)
- The New York Cares Warehouse, 157 West 31st Street between 6th and 7th Avenues (9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday)
- New York Cares office, 65 Broadway (weekdays, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
- New York Penn Station - LIRR concourse (weekdays, 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.)
- Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center - 2, 3, 4, 5 subways, lower mezzanine (weekdays, 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.)
- Grand Central Terminal - Track 17/Graybar Passage (weekdays, 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.)
- Columbus Circle Subway Station – 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. & 58<sup>th</sup> St. (weekdays, 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.)
- And many more sites citywide.

### **About New York Cares**

New York Cares is New York City's largest volunteer management organization. New York Cares runs vital programs for 1,300 nonprofits, public schools, and city agencies to help people in need throughout the five boroughs, and does so at no cost to the recipient organizations. Since 1987, New York Cares has made it easy for all New Yorkers to work together to strengthen the city; last year, we provided critical services to more than 400,000 at-risk New Yorkers. For more information, visit [newyorkcares.org](http://newyorkcares.org).

### **About The Bowery Mission**

The Bowery Mission has served homeless and hungry New Yorkers since 1879. This year, The Bowery Mission provided more than 392,000 meals to men, women and children, 98,000 nights of shelter and 45,000 articles of clothing, as well as showers, haircuts, and expert medical and optometric care. Each meal and every night of shelter is an invitation to residential recovery programs, where men and women get a second chance and lives are transformed from hopelessness to hope. Last year, the Mission's residential programs served more than 300 men and women who are regaining sobriety, reconnecting with family and faith, pursuing educational goals, and preparing for work and independent living. To ensure that at-risk children have a positive first chance at life, The Bowery Mission's city camp and summer camp serves nearly 1,100 at-risk children from poor city neighborhoods. [www.bowery.org](http://www.bowery.org)

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