REPORT ON THE FIRST YEAR OF MAYOR’S LGBTQ+ TASKFORCE WINTER DONATION DRIVE

The Mayor’s LGBTQ+ Taskforce’ first winter apparel drive was successful. It proves that “No donation and service are too small for us to create an impact.” Headed by the Committee on Outreach and Public Relations Chair, Migdalia Pagan-Milano and her team members: Amy Hand, Jade Whyatt, Jonathan Gomez-Noriega, Elizabeth Shdl, Joseph Zapata, Ed Baez and Joseph Cameron, the Taskforce collected substantial donations from January 2 to January 27. Committee Chair Pagan and her team proudly stated, “The success of this winter apparel drive is indicative of our wonderful community and how we take care of one another.”

We collected the following items: 48 New Hats, 12 like new men’s jackets, 20 like new women’s jackets, 8 new women’s jackets, 29 new gloves, 36 pairs of new socks, 28 new scarves, 2 like new toddler jackets, 1 girl youth jacket, 3 boy jackets, 85 Jersey City bini hats, 40 hand warmers, 1 pair of boots, 1 sneaker and, we brought 3 large black bags of used donations to Saint Lucy’s Shelter which were not added to the count. We would like to acknowledge the following donors: Shannon Mitchell of JC Economic Development Corporation; Ward A Councilwoman Denise Ridley; municipal employees and residents. JC Municipal Council, JC Offices, Hudson Pride and 3 Acres provided their support and/or donated their time and services.

Donations were distributed to varied organizations that provide services to homeless LGBTQ+ individuals and families such as Bridges4Life; Haven Adolescent Community Respite Center, the LGBT Rain Foundation, Triad House, and St. Lucy’s Shelter. We also set aside some of the donations for Jersey City LGBTQ+ employees (and allies) and families who are in need. Feel free to reach out to the Taskforce.

In the interim, Mayor Steven Fulop would like to thank all the city employees for your donations, time and service.”

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