

# ***Kiwanis Club of Aurora***

<http://www.firstpresaurora.org/>

**Meeting on Tuesdays • noon - 1p.m.**

Prisco Community Center • Illinois Ave. at Lake St.

[www.aurorakiwanis.org](http://www.aurorakiwanis.org)

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For Immediate Release

For News and/or Community Editor(s)

## **Again, Kiwanis Club of Aurora Helps Aurora Children with Coats**

• Kiwanis provides leadership for citywide “Coats for Kids” drive

**Aurora, Ill., Oct. 20, 2015** — The Kiwanis Club of Aurora is doing what is part of its mission. Helping kids! This winter it is part of a citywide effort of getting coats to needy children. The effort is called “Coats for Kids.”

The clubs along with the City of Aurora, Mayor Tom Weisner, City of Aurora Aldermen, Communities in Schools, and local businesses, have spearheaded this drive.

This year “Coats for Kids” hopes to raise some \$25,000 from the community in order to distribute over 2,000 coats to needy students at the elementary through high school level at school districts #129 – West Aurora, #131 – East Aurora, #204 – Indian Prairie, and #308 – Oswego. Coats are going to be distributed October 30 to some 53 schools based on a need-assessment by the school’s social worker.

The “Coats for Kids” program was started by 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Scheketa Hart-Burns and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Alderman Juany Garza. In 2009, Kiwanis Club of Aurora President Archie Needam joined forces with the aldermen by providing funds and club volunteer efforts.

Cash donations to this year’s effort may be made by going online to [GoFundMe.com/sd5ksfz8](http://GoFundMe.com/sd5ksfz8) or by sending a check, made payable to the “Aurora Illinois Kiwanis Foundation” at Kiwanis Club of Aurora, P.O. Box 1551, Aurora, IL 60507.

Club President Clyde Shields feels energized by the club’s involvement in this project.

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## Add one - **Again, Kiwanis Club of Aurora Helps Aurora Children with Coats**

“The Kiwanis Mission is to ‘Serve the Children of the World,’” Shields said. The Kiwanis Club Aurora strives to uphold that mission and is proud of our ongoing partnership in the *Coats for Kids* program. Through the efforts of this collaboration, we will be able to, once again, purchase, sort, and deliver warm winter coats to needy children in the Aurora area.

“It is only through this dedicated partnership and through donations from businesses and Aurora area residents that this program has been able to succeed and reach as many children as we do. This year, we have also received in-kind contributions from businessmen Juventino Cano, owner of Cano Container; and Tony Ibraimi, owner of Bargain Basement.

“Hopefully, this winter will not be as cold or snowy as last year’s but, if it is, the children in the Aurora area will be ready for it with warm coats.”

Chartered in 1916, the Kiwanis Club of Aurora was the first club in the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District and the twenty-first club chartered in the world. The Aurora club currently has approximately 105 members.

Current officers of the club for 2015-2016 are Clyde Shields, president; Bill Donnell, president-elect; Joan Kettley-Weinert, secretary; and Kim Granholm, treasurer. The immediate past president of the club is Cheryl Vonhoff.

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