



Words to Live By: Trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Clear your Closet and help special needs Boy Scouts
with what they want most --opportunity.***

***arc Thrift and Boy Scouts Special Needs District hold Clothing Drive
Saturday, May 16th***

DENVER, COLO – May 13, 2009 – arc Thrift Stores and The Boy Scouts Special Needs District in the Denver Area Council, are holding the 2nd annual “Clear Your Closet” clothing drive on Saturday, May 16th. People can donate clothing items at eight Denver Metro locations between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. arc Thrift will be purchasing the clothing items donated from the Scouts and the monies raised will directly benefit Scouts with special needs including youth with Autism, Down syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, vision and hearing losses and others. Spring is a great time to clean out closets and gather any unwanted clothing items. The more clothing collected, the more kids that can be helped. In Denver alone, there are thousands of kids living with physical and mental disabilities. One in every 800 children are born each year with Down Syndrome, three children out of 1,000 have Cerebral Palsy and one out of 150 children are autistic. The “Clear your Closet” clothing drive will help the district provide the opportunity for these kids to go fishing, earn merit badges, participate in the Pinewood Derby and go camping.

Lloyd Lewis, arc Thrift Stores President and CEO and Jeffrie Herrmann, Scout Executive, Denver Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, are excited about the opportunity that this joint venture will provide special needs Scouts. As arc Thrift expands throughout Colorado, so does the need to give back to the community. “Having a son with Downs Syndrome, I personally understand how important the funding of programs like special needs Scouting is. I hope that the community will come together and help us achieve great things with this program. We look forward to playing an integral role in the expansion of special needs scouting,” says Lloyd Lewis.

Denver Options is also helping this expansion effort with special needs Boy Scouts. After listening to families and troop leaders, Denver Options designed a charter Boy Scout troop for youth ages 11-18 years to help boys and their families experience scouting. This "Transition Troop Project" is the first of its kind at a national level (**see the Special Needs video for more information**).

BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS ON MAY 16TH

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS AT BELMAR CENTER
7313 W ALASKA DR, LAKEWOOD
(MAIN DROP-OFF SITE)

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS AT FLATIRONS
CROSSING
31 WEST FLATIRONS CIRCLE, BROOMFIELD

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS AT SOUTHWEST PLAZA
8501 WEST BOWLES AVE, LITTLETON

1ST BANK AT TOWER & HAMPDEN
18600 E HAMPDEN, AURORA

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS AT LARKRIDGE MALL
16521 WASHINGTON STREET, THORNTON

MELVIN SCHOOL HOUSE PARKING LOT (NORTH
OF LAREDO MIDDLE SCHOOL), 5000 S LAREDO,
AURORA

ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING DONATIONS NOW THROUGH MAY 16TH:

FREDERIC C. HAMILTON SCOUT HEADQUARTERS
10455 W 6TH AVE, DENVER 80215 1-4 PM MONDAY – FRIDAY

MELVIN SCHOOL HOUSE PARKING LOT (NORTH OF LAREDO MIDDLE SCHOOL),
5000 S LAREDO, AURORA 4-8 PM MON – FRI

About Denver Boy Scouts

The Denver Area Council serves over 60,000 youth through the assistance and mentorship of over 10,000 adult volunteers. The Denver Area Council continues its nearly 100-year tradition of strengthening youth and their families through the delivery of time-honored Scouting programs. The Boy Scouts of America provides youth the opportunity to try new things, provide services to others, build self-confidence, and reinforce ethical standards. Scouting prepares young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

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