



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

10th Annual Homeless Backpack Project

Little Rock, Arkansas — January 16, 2023

The Pearls Foundation, a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to implement programs that provide opportunities for educational advancement and quality of life improvements for the citizens of Central Arkansas will implement the 10th Annual Homeless Backpack Community Service Project, with the support of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Chi Eta Omega and Theta Mu Chapters. This event is a part of the sorority's "We Are One" AKA Service Day in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and has yielded a partnership with Family Promise of Pulaski County, Bethlehem House (Conway, AR) & River Valley Shelter (Russellville, AR).

Sorting and packing will take place Monday, January 16, 2023 from 8:00am - 12:00pm at Second Baptist Church located at 222 E 8th Street, Little Rock, AR 72202. Distribution will begin immediately after in various locations including Downtown Little Rock, Conway, and Russellville.

The Homeless Backpack Community Service Project is one of 20 events the foundation will complete in partnership with the Chi Eta Omega chapter to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its chartering in 2003. The goal is to provide at least 250 backpacks filled with life supplies to the homeless community. Supplies being distributed include: items of personal hygiene, breakfast bars, snack mixes, fruit cups, water, and crackers. We will also provide seasonal wraps including sleeping bags, blankets, socks, scarves, gloves, hats, sweaters, and coats.

Finally, backpacks will contain a one-page informational guide with homeless shelter resources to include 24-hour restroom facilities, various hotline numbers (i.e. abuse, shelter, and food banks), advocacy strategies to educate the homeless population and laws to include loitering/panhandling.

Backpacks and supplies, as listed above, are being donated by members of each organization and community support is welcome. Monetary donations can be made via CashApp at \$thepearlsfoundation (in the FOR please indicate HBP and your full name).

Visit our websites: chietaomegaAKAs.org or thepearlsfoundation.org for more information about the PEARLS Foundation, the chapter and upcoming events.

Contact:

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The Homeless Backpack Project
Meeting People Where They Are
Pearls Foundation of Central Arkansas

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10TH Annual Homeless Backpack Community Service Project:

20th Charter Day Celebration

Items Needed:

- * Sturdy backpacks.
- * Supplies including various items of personal hygiene for men and women; breakfast bars, snack mix, fruit cups, water, crackers, etc.
- * Seasonal wraps including coats, sleeping bags, blankets, socks, scarves, gloves, hats, and sweaters.
- * Cleaning supplies (i.e., detergent, dish soap, disinfectant spray, bathroom and kitchen cleaner, etc.)
- * Diapers (size 3 and up); baby formula

Partners:

- * Theta Mu Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- * River Valley Shelter for Battered Women and Children - Russellville, AR
- * Bethlehem House - Conway, AR
- * Family Promise of Pulaski County

****Packing location****
Second Baptist Church
222 E. 8th St
Little Rock, AR 72202
Monday, January 16, 2023
8:00am - 12:00pm

PEARLS FOUNDATION
PROMOTING EDUCATION, ACHIEVEMENT, RESOURCEFULNESS, LEADERSHIP & SCHOLARSHIP

Ways to give: Monetary donation via CashApp (\$thepearlsfoundation - For: HBP with name) or items