

Florida DECA Chooses Their Spring Collection Drive Charity



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Altamonte Springs, FL - Florida DECA announces their spring collection drive charity as part of their bi-annual community service program known as Helping Hands. This year the charity that will benefit from the Florida DECA Helping Hands project is the Women in Distress of Broward County.

In March of 2015, the newly elected Florida DECA officer team, Team 58, solicited the assistance of Florida DECA chapters to suggest charities in their local areas to become a Florida DECA Helping Hands charity. After looking at the suggestions submitted, Women in Distress of Broward County was chosen to be the recipient of the Spring 2015 Florida DECA collection drive which will take place at the Florida DECA Career Development Conference in Orlando. Women in Distress was nominated by South Plantation High School.

Women in Distress was founded in 1974 and began as a four-bedroom home that served as the first safe haven for homeless women in Broward County. Over the past 41 years, the center has upgraded through generous donations and most recently, in 2011, opened the new Jim & Jan Moran Family Center. Women in Distress hosts a 24-Hour Crisis Hotline and they work to prevent and stop domestic violence abuse. According to their website (www.womenindistress.org) women in distress has provided over 26,000 hours of therapy and counseling, 39,333 shelter nights, 10,795 calls answered as a part of their 24-hour Crisis Hotline and 3,261 adults and children served.

For this collection drive, the Florida Officers are encouraging chapters to collect toothpaste, toothbrushes and deodorant to be donated to the charity. It is time for all chapters across Florida to join together to make a difference in the lives of others. If your chapter will not be attending the Florida DECA Career Development Conference and would like to donate items, please consider contacting a nearby chapter and sending your collected items with them. If you need assistance with transportation logistics, contact Florida DECA President, Wesley Lopez.

All participating chapters will be recognized at the annual Florida DECA Career Development Conference. The top three chapters donating the most items will be awarded a traveling plaque. A point system will be established to properly validate the top three chapters.

This collection drive marks the ninth drive that Florida DECA has conducted since Helping Hands was established in 2011 by Team 52 President Daniela Rey. Through the efforts of Helping Hands over 82,000 items have been collected and donated to various charities around Florida.

Florida DECA is a high school co-curricular education program with 100 chapters and 9000 members across the state of Florida for the past 58 years. Florida DECA is a chartered association of DECA, Inc. The mission of DECA is to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

For more information please contact the FL DECA Officer Co-Coordinator, Robert Hosier at hosier@fldeca.org. Chapter officers and members should contact the FL DECA President, Wesley Lopez at wesley@fldeca.org.
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