



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:**

Bethany Young  
Director of Development  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh  
(412) 456-6968  
byoung@ccpgh.org

**“HEARTS TO SOLES” COMING TO ST. JOSEPH HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY THIS  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

**ATTENTION: News Desks, Reporters, Photo, Interview, & Video**

**WHAT:** "Our Hearts to Your Soles" foot screening and shoe giveaway  
**WHEN:** Monday, November 20  
**TIME:** 8:30 am – 1pm  
**WHO:** Clients of Catholic Charities, Light of Life, Jubilee Kitchen, Operation Safety Net,  
and Community Human Services

**LOCATION:**

St. Joseph House of Hospitality  
1635 Bedford Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

**Website:** [www.heartstosoles.com](http://www.heartstosoles.com)

**PITTSBURGH** – *Hearts to Soles* annual foot screening and shoe giveaway comes this Monday to St. Joseph House of Hospitality.

Previously hosted at Catholic Charities' downtown office, Hearts to Soles moves this year to "St. Joe's," Catholic Charities' transitional residence for older men who have been at risk or experienced homelessness. During the event, homeless and low-income adults will receive free foot evaluations from Dr. Steven Conti and a team of UPMC foot care specialists. Based on medical recommendations, participants will be fitted with boots and shoes donated by Red Wing.

"We are thrilled to have this opportunity to donate our footwear to such an important event," says a representative of Red Wing; "having a pair of sturdy, weather-resistant shoes can make a tremendous difference to a struggling person's winter."

Clients of Catholic Charities, Light of Life, Jubilee Kitchen, Operation safety Net, and Community Human Services are eligible for foot examinations and shoe-fitting. Volunteers from Colaizzi Pedorthic Center and graduate students studying prosthetics and orthotics at the University of Pittsburgh will fit participants with shoes blessed by Deacon Michael Babcock of Holy Apostles Parish.

Executive Director of Catholic Charities, Susan Rauscher says: "We are delighted to host Hearts to Soles for another year. While we may ponder which set of shoes to choose from our closets, for those who are homeless and forced to spend hours every day in the cold, on their feet, a good pair of shoes is both a necessity and luxury."

***About Our Hearts to Your Soles:** Founded by Matthew Conti in 2004 with the help of his father, Pittsburgh orthopedic surgeon Dr. Stephen Conti, Our Hearts to Your Soles (OHYS) is designed to fill a gap in services provided to the homeless population. Matt Conti launched OHYS after he saw the problems that can be caused by improper footwear while volunteering at a local hospital and noticed that, although several organizations provide clothing for the homeless, few supply shoes.*

***About Red Wing:** Red Wing Shoe Company manufactures work-safety footwear and flame resistant apparel for distribution in more than 110 countries worldwide. For more information, visit [redwingshoes.com](http://redwingshoes.com) or [www.facebook.com/RedWingShoes](http://www.facebook.com/RedWingShoes).*

***About St. Joseph House of Hospitality:** St. Joseph has been serving struggling older men for 80 years. Located in Pittsburgh's Hill District, St. Joseph provides private furnished rooms, a full-service kitchen, and extensive case management year-round. Almost half of its residents are veterans, and many struggle with physical or mental illness, and/or mobility issues.*

***About Catholic Charities:** Catholic Charities is the primary social service agency of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, serving all, regardless of religious affiliation, at their time of great need. With offices in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Lawrence and Washington counties, Catholic Charities has been providing programs and services since 1910. Catholic Charities offers counseling, a Free Health Care Center for those who struggle with access to care, Senior Centers and Services (out of Lawrence County) homeless assistance, pregnancy and parenting support, refugee services, and more. For more information about programs and services, visit [www.ccpgh.org](http://www.ccpgh.org).*

