December 19, 2019  
For immediate release

Holy Name of Mary’s ‘God Squad’ of teenagers hosts its annual Homelessness Awareness Sleep Out

Peekskill, NY: Holy Name of Mary’s Youth Group, the “God Squad,” will take on December’s chill temperatures during its annual Homeless Awareness “Sleepout” on Saturday, December 14th, with proceeds going to benefit Caring for the Hungry and Homeless of Peekskill (CHHOP). The members of the youth group, who are high schoolers from surrounding towns, will be in front of the Parish Center at Holy Name of Mary at 110 Grand Street in Croton-on-Hudson from 4pm on Saturday, December 14th through the night and into the next day, 11:00am on Sunday, December 15th.

People who live in and around the Croton-on-Hudson area are encouraged to come by and donate money, non-perishable food items, and men’s and women’s clothing, as well as visiting with the young adults.

The mission of Caring for the Hungry & Homeless of Peekskill Inc. (CHHOP) is to alleviate hunger and homelessness in our community by providing temporary housing for homeless adults, and by referring clients to appropriate agencies in order to help them attain independent living. CHHOP currently operates several programs including the Jan Peek House shelter for the homeless, Fred’s Pantry at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, a program for veterans, and RISE, a new program serving survivors of domestic violence and their families.

“This year, we have new social media initiatives to promote our Annual God Squad Sleepout,” said God Squad Youth Minister Lindsay Gilbert. “We have created an Instagram account (@hnmgodsquad) to keep people up to date on all things related to the event,’’ continued Ms. Gilbert.

God Squad Youth Minister Carl Barnes added, “In addition to our main collection area in front of Holy Name of Mary, we hope to host a ‘pop-up’ location in front of Shop Rite this year from 12 - 4PM on Saturday in an effort to collect more non-perishable food items from people in the surrounding communities. God Squad members will be handing out grocery lists with foods requested by CHHOP’s Fred’s Food Pantry for people interested in making a donation.”

About:

Caring for the Hungry and Homeless of Peekskill (CHHOP) works to alleviate hunger and homelessness in Peekskill and its surroundings by providing temporary housing, long-term housing, advocacy and clinical and support services to veterans, domestic violence survivors and chronically homeless men and women. CHHOP also provides healthy and nutritious food through Fred’s Pantry. Visit us chhop.org

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