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Shelby Township employees donate to charities, give back to community

By SEAN DELANEY

Source Staff Writer

In Shelby Township, the spirit of giving back extends beyond the holiday season, as township employees donated more than \$30,000 to charitable organizations, as well as donations of food items, throughout 2014.

“Our employees deliver impeccable service, and they also go above and beyond personally for the community in which they



work and live,” Supervisor Richard Stathakis said. “And many of the donations were done anony-

mously by folks looking to individually give back to the community.”

For example, Shelby

Forgotten Harvest collected hundreds of food items donated by Shelby Township employees in a food drive coordinated by the township's Human Resources Department. It was one of many charitable initiatives undertaken by township employees throughout 2014.

PHOTO COURTESY SHELBY TOWNSHIP

Township Firefighters Local 1338 hosted its 24th annual Red Hot Night in Feb-

Charity

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ruary and raised more than \$13,500 for the Great Lakes Burn Camp, which provides a unique experience that promotes healing, self-esteem, confidence and general well-being for burn-injured children.

In addition to contributions to the Shelby Township Lions and Kiwanis clubs, the Shelby Township Parks and Recreation Committee and local schools, the firefighters local also collected more than \$6,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association through the annual Fill-the-Boot campaign Nov. 28-29, and raised more than \$7,000 for the Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit at its annual golf outing.

The Shelby Township Police Officers Association also donated to several charitable causes such as helping needy families through various events.

According to Stathakis, the officers association contributed, collected and

delivered charitable donations of MP3 players, iTunes gift cards and other items to help wounded soldiers at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

In addition, the International Union UAW Local 1777, representing the township's general employees, contributed more than \$1,500 to multiple organizations, including the Knights of Columbus St. Lawrence, MIU Men's Health Organization, American Cancer Society, Thin Blue Line of Michigan and Sharing.Org to supply 132 gift boxes to needy children.

Shelby TV, the township's cable television department, also donated \$2,500 in the form of in-

kind service to Paint Creek Center for the Arts, a program dedicated to promoting art programs such as exhibitions, classes, outreach programs, community involvement projects, and the Arts and Apples Festival.

According to Stathakis, the township's Human Resource Department also hosted a food drive during November. Employees donated more than 330 non-perishable food items to Forgotten Harvest, a non-profit organization that services roughly 2,000 square miles in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

"It is an honor to work with such giving people," Stathakis said. "You couldn't ask for a better team."



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