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**ARAB AMERICAN AND CHALDEAN COUNCIL LAUNCHES
WINTER COAT DRIVE TO HELP THOSE IN NEED**

New this year, organization partnering with Bridging the Gap initiative

TROY, Mich. – Nov. XX, 2015 – The Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC), a premier nonprofit human service organization serving southeast Michigan, has launched its annual winter coat drive to help clients in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties stay warm this season.

Through Fri., Nov. 20, the organization will be accepting new and gently used coats of any size, at its headquarters in Troy (363 W. Big Beaver Road, Suite 300) and Youth Center in Detroit (62 W. Seven Mile Road).

This year, the ACC is partnering with the Detroit Public Safety Foundation’s Bridging the Gap initiative by assisting in raising money for them to purchase coats for \$10 each. Following the Foundation’s Nov. 21 coat giveaway, all remaining garments will be donated to ACC. Monetary donations, in the form of cash or checks made payable to the ACC, will be accepted at the ACC’s headquarters or by mail (363 W. Big Beaver Road, Suite 300, Troy, MI 48084, Attn: Coat Drive).

“Too many men, women and children are unfortunately left in the cold during the winter months and this year we have greater need for support,” said Dr. Haifa Fakhouri, president and CEO of the Arab American and Chaldean Council. “These coats will go to numerous deserving individuals and families, including Syrian refugees who will be experiencing their first snow this year. As we enter the season of giving, we hope metro Detroiters will open their hearts to help.”

Both donation sites will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information about the ACC, visit www.myacc.org.

About the Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC)

The Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC) is the premier nonprofit human service organization providing services to the Middle Eastern and mainstream communities in Southeast Michigan. Founded in 1979, the ACC provides counseling, health care, social services, employment training, job placement, translation, interpretation and youth services to more than 70,000 clients in metro Detroit. The ACC operates 40 outreach offices in the tri-county area, staffed with bilingual and trilingual professionals to serve the Arab American and Chaldean American populations and offer assistance to the Middle East refugee population. For more information, visit www.myacc.org or call (248) 559-1990.

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