

Senator Oberacker's First Annual Coat Drive Warms Thousands; Over 2,000 Coats Collected

PETER OBERACKER February 4, 2025



ONEONTA, 2/4/25 - State Senator Peter Oberacker announced today the successful conclusion of the First Annual 51st Senate District Winter Coat Drive with more than 2,000 coats distributed to families and individuals in need.

"I'm humbled and inspired by the support of our neighbors," said Senator Oberacker. "Thousands will have warmth and comfort during the harshest months of the year because of their generosity. This effort is a powerful testament to what we can achieve together."

The success of this coat drive was made possible through the dedication of our partner organizations:

- Monticello Rotary Club
- United Way of Sullivan County
- The Angel Network of Cooperstown
- Delaware Opportunities
- United Way of Broome County
- The Joshua Project of Schoharie County

Key locations throughout the 51st District served as drop-off points thanks to the generosity of local businesses and community hubs:

- Jeff Bank of Monticello
- The Sullivan County Government Center
- The Liberty Police Department
- The Callicoon Town Call
- Senator Charles D. Cook Delaware County Office Building
- The Laundry Basket of Cobleskill
- Ellenville Regional Hospital

This effort would not have been possible without the extraordinary contributions of key community leaders who went above and beyond:

- Assemblyman Chris Tague
- Assemblyman Joe Angelino

- Otsego County Sheriff Rich Devlin
- Delaware County Sheriff Craig DuMond
- Broome County Sheriff Fred Akshar
- Delaware County District Attorney Shawn Smith
- Eric Northrup, Delaware County District Attorney's Office
- Delaware County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Tina Molé

Finally, Senator Oberacker extends a heartfelt thank you to **Helmut Michelitsch of Metro Cleaners in Cooperstown**, whose commitment to the cause was instrumental in making this effort possible. Helmut personally picked up, cleaned, and delivered thousands of coats.

"This initiative showcased the very best of our community—neighbors stepping up for neighbors in need," said Senator Oberacker. "I am proud to represent a district where compassion and action come together. Thank you all for the incredible support and for making a real difference in the lives of so many."