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Socks for the Sole: Giving Local Kids a Fresh Start

Annual Sock Drive Returns for 15th Year

A small item can make a big difference. That's the idea behind the 15th Annual Socks for the Sole drive, now underway in Fort Dodge. Organized by the Community Health Center of Fort Dodge in partnership with Shimkat Motor Co., the drive collects new socks for children and teens across the area—helping families prepare for the new school year.

Donations of new socks for kids from preschool through high school are being accepted now through August 1 at Shimkat Motor Co. (2126 5th Ave S, Fort Dodge). Shimkat will match every pair donated by the community, doubling the impact.

Most-needed items are black and white crew or ankle socks, but all new socks are welcome. Every pair donated goes directly to a child in the Fort Dodge area who could use a fresh start this fall.

“New socks are something many of us don't think twice about,” said Regina Suhrbier, Outreach Coordinator at the Community Health Center. “But for some families, it's one more expense. This drive helps meet a simple need—and lets local kids start the year off cared for and comfortable.”

Socks will be distributed on Tuesday, August 5, at the annual Back-to-School Block Party, hosted by Community Health Center of Fort Dodge and Upper Des Moines Opportunity. The event runs from 5 to 8 PM behind the Health Center (126 N 10th Street) and is free and open to all.