



NEWS RELEASE

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Vienna Donations Exceed Expectations for Ukraine Relief Drive

Moved by the horrors of the war in Ukraine, Vienna residents, schools and businesses responded in force to a multi-jurisdictional relief drive to support Ukrainian refugees. From March 23-April 15, so many donations of new blankets, socks, gloves, hats and coats were dropped off daily at the Vienna Community Center, they had to be moved to a storage area in the temporary police headquarters on Center Street. By the end of the drive, the donations, placed in protective bags by Community Center staff, were piled so high, they filled a 150-foot storage room almost to the ceiling!

“The response has been overwhelming, and I am grateful to serve in a community that so generously provided these basic comforts to Ukrainian refugees who desperately need them,” said Vienna Mayor Linda Colbert. “Our community’s enormous compassion is truly inspiring.”

The Town of Vienna was the first of five stops for a trucking crew who picked up the donated items this morning to ship them to Poland. By the time they completed the Vienna pickup, there was no room left in the 16-foot box truck. The crew headed back to Springfield to pick up a bigger truck to cover its remaining stops.

Ultimately the donations from 48 drop-off locations in Northern Virginia will be shipped to Poland where they will be distributed to Ukrainians who fled their homeland with few possessions after Russian soldiers invaded their country in February. Mayor Linda Colbert joined other Northern Virginia leaders at the Fairfax County Government Center on March 23 to pledge Vienna’s support and help launch the relief drive for Ukrainian refugees.

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