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**University Station Hosts Winter Donation Drive**

**for School On Wheels Massachusetts**

***Collecting Warm Winter Items Now through March 12, 2023***

WESTWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS (February 2023) – Help keep children experiencing homelessness warm this winter. Consider donating items to the Winter Warm Up Donation Drive benefitting School on Wheels of Massachusetts going on now through March 12, 2023.

Items needed include new and unused cozy blankets, warm socks, hats + gloves, hand sanitizer, and more. Items can be left in the donation bin located at Five Below. For more information, visit [ShopUniversityStation.com](http://www.shopuniversitystation.com).

"School on Wheels is so grateful to University Station for hosting this donation drive. Items collected will support our Winter, Warm & Wellness campaign, which helps educate the students we work with in our tutoring program about the importance of self-care, good hygiene practice, and wellness. As part of this effort, we distribute a kit full of warm items, hygiene products and learning materials to our students," explains Barbara Fox, Community Outreach Director for School on Wheels.

“University Station is pleased to continue our support for School on Wheels of Massachusetts. This donation drive will provide much-needed warm winter items for local children in need,” says Rebekah Macchia, Marketing Director of University Station.

**School on Wheels**

School on Wheels of Massachusetts (SOWMA) was founded in 2004 by teacher and child advocate Cheryl Opper after reading a magazine article about Agnes Stevens, Founder of School on Wheels of California. Cheryl was inspired to bring the one-on-one academic support program to Massachusetts for children impacted by homelessness. Since the start of the 2021/2022 academic year, SOWMA has distributed more than 6,000 new customized, grade-level backpacks to children and at-risk youth living in 38 Massachusetts communities. Trained volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to 280 students at 18 program site locations from Boston to the South Coast. The Bridge Mentoring Program provides 87 high school and college-age students with financial support and mentors, who shepherd students through high school and onto post-secondary plans, including college, vocational training, and jobs. For more information, visit [www.SOWA.com](http://www.SOWA.com).

**University Station**

University Station is a vibrant, mixed-used development in Westwood, Massachusetts combining unique retail, restaurant, residential and office uses. Located on University Avenue at Exit 13 on Route 128/I-95, University Station is adjacent to the Route 128 MBTA Commuter Rail/Amtrak Station. Anchored by Target, Wegmans and Nordstrom Rack, University Station features an exciting mix of restaurants and stores including Del Frisco’s Grille, Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza, Not Your Average Joe’s, Casa Loca Mexican Cantina, Smashburger, Homesense, Michaels, Marshalls/HomeGoods, PetSmart, Ulta Beauty, Five Below, and J. Crew Factory coming soon. Courtyard by Marriott®, Life Time Athletic, Brigham & Women’s Health Care Center, Gables Residential (featuring 350 luxury apartments) and Bridges by Epoch (a memory care facility) are also at University Station. For more information, visit [ShopUniversityStation.com](http://www.ShopUniversityStation.com).

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