

CHATS collects coats for people in need

By Brock Weir

It's now the middle of October and the number of days you can get by without wearing a coat are becoming few and far between.

Some people, however, do not have the luxury of choice so clients with the adult day program at CHATS (Community and Home Assistance to Seniors) are stepping up to the plate to collect coats for those in need.

New and used clothes, which will be collected at CHATS (Edward Street, just east of Yonge Street) through 4.30 p.m. on Monday, October 19, and will be distributed through Coats for Kids, the Care and Share Clothing Centre and 360 Kids.

The coats are being collected by the client through CHATS' Give Back program, which developed from the senior clients themselves who were looking at a way to give back to the community. Such initiatives have included a pencil case drive for local students, and support for caregivers.

"They really want to make sure people have those necessities of life to stay warm," says CHATS. "Around Thanksgiving, they remember it is time to go back to school and winter is coming, and it is about making sure people had something nice to wear when it is cold. The response has been fantastic. One lady showed up with five bags of coats - you forget what is sitting in the basement! This is the time of year to give thanks and think about others. If you have something you aren't using, feel free to drop it off and know it is going to be given to a person who can really use it."