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DJJ Holding Coat Drive For Families

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**

The Department of Juvenile Justice is looking to bring in coats during a service learning project.

The DJJ will hold a coat drive for families in need at 9 a.m. Nov. 14 at the Laurens County Family Connections Building office.

Cami Stokes, juvenile program manager at the Department of Juvenile Justice, said they are taking communi-

ty service to the next step.

"This way the kids can learn about why they are doing community service and how it benefits the community," Stokes said. "We do one (service learning project) a month. We work with the kids and let them work community service. We teach them and let it be a learning experience about being responsible in the community and how they can be a responsible citizen and

help the community."

Stokes said they've asked their youth and staff to help by donating coats.

"If anybody has any coats that they can't wear or don't wear anymore," she said. "We're putting all of those together. We're trying to get families names that may be in need of coats for the

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winter. Of course, our workers through probation will get some families who will have a need."

There will be a day of sorting coats in sizes once they get them all together.

The DJJ are also accepting

can and box goods to feed the families. Stokes said they will try to do both together.

"We may put it together because most of the families who are in need of coats are in need of food as well," Stokes said. "We'll be able to give them the coats and can and box goods as well."