MEDIA RELEASE

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Mayor Jacobs to Deliver Festival Food Donations to Love Kitchen on Tuesday

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— On Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 2 p.m., The Love Kitchen will accept from Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs the canned goods collected during the 2022 Holiday Festival of Lights at The Cove at Concord Park. The media and public are welcome.

The 24th annual event ran the entire month of December and concluded Sunday, Dec. 31. Visitors to the festival donated enough non-perishable food items to fill roughly seven large barrels.

Knox County has for years donated a variety of non-perishable food collected at the Festival of Lights to the Love Kitchen, which provides meals, clothing, and emergency food packages for the homebound, homeless, and unemployed.

2022 was the first year that monetary donations were gathered to support Mayor Jacobs' School Mania event. For the first time ever, Knox County is attempting to purchase pre-packaged school supply boxes for distribution at the event in July. The $2,157 donations should help purchase more than 70 supply kits.

"I continue to believe that our Festival of Lights is one of our best events," said Mayor Jacobs. "The holiday spirit it fosters is made better by the donations made by our visitors. The event has helped provide food to those in need for years, but those attending in 2022 also supported student success for the start of the school year."

The Festival of Lights will return at the end of 2023 for its 25th year.

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