



MEDIA RELEASE

CT Department of Labor *Communications Office*
Commissioner Kurt Westby

Connecticut Safety Society Sponsoring 28th Annual Holiday Stuffed Animal Drive

WETHERSFIELD, November 23, 2018 – Continuing their annual holiday tradition, members of the Connecticut Safety Society are sponsoring their 2018 Stuffed Animal Drive – the 28th annual event – which runs through December 13.

“Designed to help spread the joy of the season to Hartford-area youngsters who might otherwise miss out, this effort benefits the sons and daughters of mothers who rely on the services of the Interval House,” explains Aaron Thompson of CONN-OSHA, a member of the Connecticut Safety. “Interval House is a non-profit organization the helps victims end the violence in their lives through advocacy, support groups, shelters and other services.”

Comprised of employees from the Connecticut Department of Labor’s Division of Occupational Safety and Health (CONN-OSHA), representatives from federal OSHA’s offices in Hartford and Bridgeport, and safety and health professionals from the private industry, the Connecticut Safety Society has promoted occupational safety and health awareness since 1945. It does so by studying accident prevention, developing control techniques for occupational disease, and advancing the discipline of industrial safety.

“These are challenging times financially for so many people, and the Stuffed Animal Drive is our way of trying to make things a little happier and hopefully bring a smile to the faces of the boys and girls,” Thompson notes. “Many of these youngsters would not have any of those special ‘extras’ that make the holidays such a special time of year,” he added.

Individuals and community groups wishing to participate in the drive can drop off a **NEW** stuffed animal between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at CONN-OSHA’s Wethersfield office, located at 38 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield. Interval House staff will put the collected toys into gift baskets for distribution to the children at the annual holiday party to be held December 16 this year.

“We look forward to our Stuffed Animal Drive every year,” Thompson notes. “People are always generous and open their hearts and wallets to help make the holidays a little extra special.”

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