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Detroit Semis Hit the Road for Houston filled with Donations from #Detroit 2 Houston Effort

Detroit, MI: The first of eight semi trucks from the #Detroit2Houston Stuff-a-Semi relief effort hit the road last night, Tuesday September 5, 2017, filled with supplies donated by Metro-Detroiters to help the victims of Hurricane Harvey.

Over the past week, the outpouring of generosity from Michigan residents to support Boost One Marketing's #Detroit2Houston campaign to deliver supplies to Harvey victims has been nothing short of phenomenal. What started as a relief drive initiated by Boost One owner Sherrie Handrinos, who became stranded in Houston after Harvey made landfall, to fill one semi truck, has dictated the need for a total of eight semi trucks to transport all the collected supplies to Texas relief centers.

Boost One's #Detroit2Houston campaign held two supply drives over the Labor Day weekend. During the first drive, held at AirTime Trampoline & Game Park in Troy on Saturday September 2, a constant stream of Metro-Detroiters and Michigan residents from as far as Lansing and Midland, dropped off toiletries, bedding, diapers, backpacks, socks, underwear and T-shirts, toys, medical supplies and equipment, and household goods from 9:00am – 4:00pm. By Midnight, volunteers had stuffed one semi trailer and needed to cover over 100 remaining pallets of supplies with tarps for future pick up. The second drive was held at the Greater Grace Temple in Detroit on Sunday. Bishop Charles Ellis, Greater Grace parishioners, and community volunteers stuffed a second entire semi with badly needed supplies for Texas.

Trucking companies and volunteer drivers from Michigan to Texas have stepped up to help including Roger Penske, donating two semis, Letica Corporation of Rochester, MI, Go To Shipping from Midland, MI, and others. Boost One is currently working with additional companies to secure donations of the remaining trucks.

Handrinos, who has been working daily with the Houston Flood Relief Fund and the Houston community to ensure donations go directly to Harvey victims with the greatest need, has set up six relief centers in Texas where the #Detroit2Houston semis will deliver donated supplies.

Avalanche Food Group, a Boost One client in Houston who owns several area Twin Peaks Restaurants, is building entire donation centers in three of their restaurant parking lots to house Detroit donations and allow Harvey victims to go and shop for whatever they need.

Handrinos is also working with former Detroit Lion Safety James Ihedigbo, another Houston client, who has set up a Detroit donation destination center for The ROCK World Outreach International Church at Reflection of Christ's Kingdom in Houston, to help victims especially hard hit in that area. Gina Swanson, mother of Detroit Lion Center Travis Swanson, is also helping

Handrinos by volunteering to run the Detroit donation center in Kingwood, Texas, another area where victims have lost everything.

“This is absolutely amazing,” said Handrinos. “From the huge hearts of Metro Detroiters who came through in a bigger way than we ever imagined, to the strength of Houstonians who are stepping up in the midst of this tragedy to take care of the eight loads of donations when the trucks arrive here. This journey has been exhausting and wonderful at the same time! I can’t even begin to thank everyone who has give so much to make a difference in the lives of people they may never meet, who have lost everything in this crisis.”

Handrinos, who has canceled her flight plans back to Michigan to ensure the #Detroit2Houston donations reach the hands of those in need there in Texas, has set up donation centers for the semi trucks coming from Detroit at the following locations:

1. Twin Peaks Restaurant, 4521 Lomitas St., Houston, TX (The first Detroit Semi that left on September 5 is scheduled to arrive at this location on September 8th)
2. Kingwood Community Center, 3702 Woodland Hill Drive, Kingwood, TX 77339 (This center will be run by Gina Swanson, and will be the second stop for the first Detroit Semi on September 8th)
3. Gulf Haven Church, 10716 Sabo Rd., Houston , TX 77089
4. Reflection of Christ's Kingdom, 9321 Edgebrook St., Houston, TX
5. Twin Peaks Restaurant - Beaumont, 3805 Interstate 10 South, Beaumont, TX
6. Twin Peaks Restaurant - Corpus Christi, 5425 S. Padre Island Dr., Ste 149, Corpus Christi, TX

Handrinos has also set up a GoFundMe account for monetary donations for the #Detroit2Houston effort at www.Gofundme.com. One hundred percent of the funds donated to the #Detroit2Houston GoFundMe campaign will be used solely to help defray fuel and insurance expenses for the transport of donated supplies, and will be given directly to the Houston Flood Relief Fund to ensure funding goes to victims displaced by Hurricane Harvey.

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