



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Westside Community Center Zumbathon Calls on ‘Heroes for the Homeless’

New Braunfels, TX — Zumba classes are known to leave you feeling good, but you’ll feel even better when you’re dancing for a good cause.

That’s the goal of the Westside Community Center’s annual Zumbathon, which this year is encouraging New Braunfels residents to act as heroes for the homeless by donating travel-size items for care bags that will be given to homeless individuals and families in the local area in January.

Travel-size donations will be accepted throughout the month of October, but the Zumbathon will be held on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

“Laura Rosales has organized an amazing group of community Zumba instructors over the past two years,” said Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Hernandez. “She is an advocate for getting moving, making life changes and sharing her passion for Zumba with others. These instructors all have such fun personalities that they bring to the event, and each vary in their music selections and dance moves. It makes for quite a fun morning.”

Participants are welcome to don their favorite hero costume for the event, and a donation of one (or more) travel-size item gets you in the door.

Suggested items include toothpaste, a toothbrush, shampoo/conditioner, lotion, deodorant, socks, a rain poncho, hand sanitizer, a bar of soap, a razor, shaving cream, a can opener, a beanie (for cold weather) and/or gloves (for cold weather).

The Comal County Homeless Coalition will pass out the care bags on the third Thursday of January — the day of the Point in Time survey, which is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night.

According to the Texas Homeless Network, “PTI data can provide insight into a community’s homeless population and service gaps. It provides a ‘snap shot’ of what homelessness looks like on a single night in your community.”

DJ Jerry Saucedo will provide the music for the Zumbathon this year. New Braunfels Food Bank Nutrition and Wellness Education Coordinator Jennifer Lankford will be in attendance to provide smoothies and nutrition education.

Participants will also receive one raffle ticket per donation item for a maximum of 10 tickets. Each instructor has donated one raffle item, and winners will be announced during the break. The event is open to the public and participants must fill out a waiver on the day of the event.

The Westside Community Center is located at 2932 S. IH-35 Frontage Rd. in New Braunfels. For more information about Zumbathon or other Westside Community Center programs, call the community center office at 830-221-4630.

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