



MEDIA RELEASE

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

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— On Valentine’s Day – Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 10:30 a.m. – Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs will drop off the canned goods and a check for \$3,190.25 collected during the 2023 Holiday Festival of Lights at The Love Kitchen. The media and public are welcome.

The 25th annual event ran throughout December, and visitors donated enough non-perishable food items to fill roughly seven large barrels, and \$3,190.25.

Knox County has for years donated a variety of non-perishable food collected at the Festival of Lights to the Love Kitchen, which opened on Feb. 14, 1986, and provides meals, clothing, and emergency food packages for the homebound, homeless, and unemployed.

“The holiday spirit the Festival of Lights fosters is always made better by the donations made from the visitors who attend the free event,” Mayor Jacobs said. “The Love Kitchen is a community institution that provides a great service and gives people hope. It’s also one of those organizations in our community that everybody knows about, and everybody supports because of the outstanding work that they do.”

Knox County Parks and Recreation Senior Director Joe Mack agreed.

“The Festival of Lights is an incredible community tradition, and I believe it is one of our best events,” Mack said. “I’m grateful for the generous contributions from so many who were able to enjoy it and help out.”

The Festival of Lights will return at the end of 2024 for its 26th year.

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