

Capuchin Soup Kitchen Seeks Warm Clothes

The Capuchin Services Center, a program of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, is collecting new hats, gloves and coats to distribute to children 11 and under as part of its CAPS, Coats N' Kids holiday program.

"We know that people think of toys for children at Christmas," Capuchin Soup Kitchen Director Brother Jerry Smith, said. "Toys are wonderful, but many of our children are underdressed for the cold Detroit winters. That's why we are concentrating instead on warm winter clothing for our Capuchin Soup Kitchen children."

The items will be included as part of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen's holiday food basket distribution on Dec. 23-24, said spokesperson Colleen Crane.

They will be collecting clothes up to the days of distribution.

"About 1,200 families have pre-

registered," Brother Jerry said. "Parents will choose the children's warm weather clothing in a department store atmosphere. It is important that our families enjoy a festive, dignified experience."

Donations of new hats, gloves and coats are gratefully accepted and can be dropped off at the Capuchin Services Center, 6333 Medbury, Detroit, located near I-94 and Mount Elliott, Crane said.

Hours for dropping off goods are Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Founded in 1929, the Capuchin Soup Kitchen serves Metro Detroit by providing food, clothing, and counsel to those in need, Crane said.

In addition to preparing and typically serving 2,000 meals a day, the Capuchin Soup Kitchen

also distributes household items and operates a shower program, food pantry, and children's tutoring and art therapy program, Crain said.

Its Earthworks Urban Farm produces vegetables for Detroit's hungry, and educates the community in regard to sustainable relationships between human beings and the earth, Crane said.

The soup kitchen's ROPE (Reaching Our Potential Everyday) ministry is designed to assist individuals "re-entering" society after bouts of incarceration or substance abuse.

ROPE's first social enterprise is the "On the Rise Bakery."

The soup kitchen is a ministry of the Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order, which is headquartered in Detroit and serves Capuchin ministries worldwide.

Chevy Cuts Back In Europe; Focus On Opel, Vauxhall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ices for their Chevrolet vehicles, and for vehicles purchased between now and the end of 2015," said Thomas Sedran, president and managing director of Chevrolet Europe.

"We want to thank our customers and dealers for their loyalty to the Chevrolet brand here in Europe."

The majority of the Chevrolet portfolio sold in Western and Eastern Europe is produced in South Korea, Akerson said.

As a result, GM will increase its focus on driving profitability, managing costs and maximizing sales opportunities in its Korean operations as the company looks for new ways to improve business results in the fast-changing and highly competitive global business environment.

"We will continue to become more competitive in Korea," said GM Korea President and CEO Sergio Rocha.

"In doing so, we will position ourselves for long-term competitiveness and sustainability in the best interests of our employees, customers and stakeholders, while remaining a significant contributor to GM's global business."

With the decision that Chevrolet will no longer have a mainstream presence in Western and Eastern Europe, GM expects to record net special charges of \$700 million to \$1 billion primarily in the fourth quarter of 2013 and continuing through the first half of 2014, Akerson said.

The special charges include asset impairments, dealer restructuring, sales incentives and severance-related costs, and will pave the way for continued improvement in GM's European operations through the further strengthening of the Opel and Vauxhall brands.

In addition, GM expects to incur restructuring costs related to these actions that will not be treated as special charges, but will impact GM International Operations earnings in 2014.

Mike Wall, director of automotive analysis for IHS Automotive in Grand Rapids, said that while GM has been trying to build Chevrolet into a world brand, that move presents certain problems in Europe.

"GM has been trying to move Chevy into Europe and move its Opel operations 'upscale,'" Wall said.

"But that's expensive and Europe's economy isn't great. And there are already some very strong players in Europe in the more upscale market niches. So moving Opel up isn't easy."

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