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they're immune to cold

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Reno Guardian Angels raising money so they can donate blankets to the homeless

DECEMBER 12, 2008

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The Reno chapter of the Guardian Angels continues today to raise funds for their first Blanket-Bundle Drive to help the homeless residents of downtown Reno handling the cold weather expected during the holiday season

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Chapter members have been going door-to-door to solicit as donations as fast as they can, the group said in a press release.

The Chapter hopes to give away 100 blanket-bundles to homeless recipients on Dec. 23. The group needs to raise about \$2,000 for the 100 blanket bundles it wants to distribute. The group has raised about 30 percent of the needed money.

"We've received donations from one dollar up to forty dollars, in person and on our Web site www.renoguardianangels.com. That's how we're going to achieve success — one dollar at a time," said Scott Tootell, a chapter member and spokesman, in a statement. "We will spend

whatever money we get to help as many people as we can."

Each blanket-bundle will contain a 4-foot by 5-foot signature-red fleece blanket with Guardian Angels logo, a red stocking cap and a pair of men's large black fleece gloves with cinched wrist and clip. The bundle is contained in a polyester carrying strap, allowing the items to be easily carried and stored.

Tootell conceived the idea with Chapter Leader Ed Park.

Members patrol in groups on the weekends and special events. Their regular route includes Virginia Street from the UNR campus to California Street, and areas of Fourth Street. The group plans to include portions of

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Wells Avenue, as well, on the request of business-owners.

"We're a small local group, and there seem to be more and more agencies and organizations asking for donations this season," said Park, a Reno resident who has served as the local Chapter Leader for the Guardian Angels since 1996. "Much of that fundraising is focused on food, toys, and trees, and that's wonderful - there's so much need for the holiday. Our focus is on the basic need of warmth, which could mean the difference between life and death for some of these people - people who may not know where else to go to get help."

To donate to the Reno Guardian Angels blanket-bundle campaign, please visit www.renoguardianangels.com. A donation of \$20 will pay for one blanket bundle. All donations are tax deductible, and donors will receive receipts for tax purposes. For more information, or to donate in person, contact Scott Tootell at 343-9242 or at renoangels@flexativity.com.

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