Where in Westchester to Give Back on #GivingTuesday
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White Plains, N.Y. – You may have seen the hashtag/activism movement #GivingTuesday start popping up on your newsfeed already this year, encouraging you to give back to your community on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Joining the grassroots campaign gives organizations the opportunity to harness the power of social media to make their missions known on a day where people can join in collectively.

We've rounded up a few local ways you can get involved on December 3, ranging from kid-friendly options like a game for a good cause to writing letters to Santa! Keep in mind: There's always plenty to do in your local community, but we figured these would be some great places to start.

Feeding Westchester

Get in on some friendly competition by participating in the Community Scoop-A-Thon, a team race to package items for families in need across the county. The team that packs the most pounds of food will win the Community Scoop Award.

The organization packages a ton of food on a regular basis by sourcing and distributing food and other resources to towns across Westchester, with the help of 300 non-profit partner programs. The entrance fee is $50 per person or $500 per team of 10. Up to 10 members per team may participate, and individuals who sign up will be assigned to a team.

Your Local Soup Kitchen

While we're on the subject, nearly every community in Westchester has volunteer emergency food services you can contribute to, either with your time, supplies, or just the monetary means to keep their mission going. The Sharing Community in Yonkers is one such organization open every Tuesday through Saturday for lunch and serving meals year-round to residents of the organizations transitional housing facilities.

Lifting Up Westchester in White Plains likewise opens Grace's Kitchen to the community every weekday from 9 a.m. to noon, and is always in need of cash and food donations, as well as
volunteers. Check in your community to see if there's a local organization you can help out on #GivingTuesday, for the holidays, or all year long.

Make-A-Wish

Giving for a good cause is written all over this opportunity. For each letter to Santa Macy’s receives, the company will donate $1 (up to $1 million!!) to the organization, which grants wishes to children with critical illnesses.

Letters can be dropped off — or made — at Westchester Macy’s locations in the Galleria in White Plains and the Cross County Shopping Center in Yonkers.

Volunteer New York!

This organization is using the movement to call community leaders to action by making donations that will go towards preserving and advancing local volunteerism.

There's tons of volunteering opportunities all season long, but for the day there's a special push for monetary donations to help the organization continue to expand its work in Westchester and Rockland counties.

The Katonah Museum

Besides holding events, organizations can also get involved in the movement by utilizing its marketing tips to get the most out of the hashtag. The museum will be rallying for donations that will go towards its events and programs, which explore ideas about art, culture, and society through exhibition and educational programs.

Donations can be made through this link, or on the group's Facebook page on #GivingTuesday. While this is only one amazing local nonprofit, we encourage you to support all your local support networks in any way you can!

To view the full article online, please visit: http://www.westchestermagazine.com/GivingTuesday-Westchester/