



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Unique Thrift Store and Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett  
Announce \$100,000 Gift Certificate Program for Nonprofits, Schools**

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***Unique Closet Gift Certificate Program enables County underprivileged adults and children  
to obtain quality clothing and household items at no charge***

**Silver Spring, Md.** – Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett joined Unique Thrift Store managers, community organizations and area public schools to announce the Silver Spring retail store’s Unique Closet gift certificate program designed for pre-qualified nonprofit organizations and public schools.

“Montgomery County is pleased to celebrate this public-private partnership with Unique Thrift Store,” said Isiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive. “Given the County’s budgetary challenges, it is imperative that the underprivileged continue to have access to essential services and supplies, so when a business like Unique Thrift Store steps forward with this very generous contribution, we rightly should celebrate their commitment to the community.”

Unique Thrift Store’s Unique Closet program is contributing \$100,000 in gift certificates to community organizations and Silver Spring area public schools, which have been pre-qualified as having a disproportionate number of needy families by County officials. The leadership within each organization and school is responsible for identifying and distributing the \$50 gift certificates, which then can be redeemed for clothing, household goods, books and other necessities at the Unique Thrift Store located at 10121 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, Md.

“Unique Thrift Store’s Unique Closet program is an extension of our corporate commitment to serve our community,” added Dave Kloeber, Principal, Unique Thrift Store. “We are most fortunate that the Unique family is in the position to help our neighbors in need.”

Organizations and schools participating in the Unique Closet program currently include the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County, Montgomery County Child Welfare Services, Abilities Network, Jubilee Association, Service Coordination, Inc., Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, Community Ministry of Montgomery County, SEEC, Cresthaven Elementary School, Cannon Road Elementary School, Roscoe Nix Elementary School, and Burnt Mills Elementary School.

The Unique Closet program has already benefited students needing winter coats and families needing necessities for their homes. The program is administered through Unique Thrift Store’s partnerships with the Montgomery County government, nonprofit organizations and public schools.

Rebecca Wagner, Executive Director of Community Ministry of Montgomery County said, “For families that work so hard towards self-sufficiency, these gift certificates are not only an incentive, but they are also a reward. Given the high cost of living in our County, this program is a true gift to our clients.”

For more information about Unique Thrift Store’s Unique Closet program, contact Ellen Bogage at (301) 370-2568.

*Unique Thrift Store is proud to serve the local community by providing a wide range of affordable, quality merchandise to accommodate the needs of its customers. Unique Thrift Store opened its doors in the Hillandale Shopping Center in August 2006. Since then, it has actively contributed to the community through partnering with local charities and providing almost 200 full-time jobs and benefits to local residents. Combined with the Wheaton location, Unique provides excellent pay and benefits to approximately 400 community residents. For more information, visit [www.uniquethriftstoremd.com](http://www.uniquethriftstoremd.com).*

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