



# MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

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## **Mayor Jacobs to Deliver Check, Food to Love Kitchen on Tuesday**

*KNOXVILLE, Tenn.*— On Tuesday, Feb. 8, The Love Kitchen will accept from Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs the canned goods and a check for the funds collected during the recent Holiday Festival of Lights at the Cove.

The donation will take place at 10:30 a.m. at the Love Kitchen, 2418 Martin Luther King Jr Ave.

The media and public are welcome. This year’s Holiday Festival of Lights at the Cove at Concord Park turned out to be quite the success, raising \$7,272.25, and enough non-perishable food items to fill roughly 11.5 large barrels. The 23rd annual event ran almost the entire month of December and concluded Sunday, Jan. 2. This was the first time the event accepted Venmo payments, which totaled \$1,386. Next year the plan is to be cash-free.

Ernie Roberts, vice president of the Love Kitchen, said he was proud of the public’s donations to help the organization.

“The Love Kitchen has a long history of service in Knox County,” said Roberts. “The support we receive from the community—both from individuals and businesses—is what continues to make it possible.”

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs agreed.

“I continue to believe that our Festival of Lights is one of our best events,” said Mayor Jacobs. “The holiday spirit it evokes is made better by the giving spirit of our visitors.”

Each year, Knox County donates the money and food collected from the festival of lights to the Love Kitchen, which provides meals, clothing, and emergency food packages for the homebound, homeless, and unemployed.

Last year, the Love Kitchen celebrated its 35th anniversary of a charitable movement that started in a small church on Valentine’s Day in 1986 when twin sisters Helen Ashe and Ellen Turner served 22 meals to those in need. The two would go on to work tirelessly, feeding Knoxville’s homeless and homebound. The Love Kitchen’s all-volunteer team now serves more than 3,000 meals a week and delivers more than 80 percent of those meals to the elderly, disabled, and homebound.

Sadly, Ellen Turner passed away in April 2015 and Helen Ashe in February 2018.

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