

# Village of Tinley Park

## News Release



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### **Village officials deliver donations in Hurricane Harvey Relief Effort**

In the latest development of the Hurricane Harvey Relief Effort, Tinley Park has successfully delivered two semi-trucks full of goods to the Houston area. Mayor Jacob Vandenberg, Trustee Brian Younker, Assistant Director of Public Works John Urbanski and Tinley Park senior Josh Urbanski drove a convoy to Houston this past week.

Upon arriving in Houston, they met with Houston City officials to discuss what efforts had been set fourth. After unloading one semi, they were directed to re-route the second truck to an alternate distribution warehouse. With the help of Houston's Teamsters Local 988, Village officials unloaded and sorted the pallets of goods, all of which were generously donated by the residents of both Tinley Park and Orland Park.

This effort would not have been possible without the help of countless volunteers, the Tinley Park Park District, Bettenhausen Automotive, Airy's Inc., Z Force Transport, KRD Trucking, Boy Scout Troop 911, the Village of Orland Park, Tinley Park staff and residents.

"This project involved a significant amount of coordination between the Village of Tinley Park, the Village of Orland Park, the fine companies who donated to this effort, the officials down in Houston and our residents," Vandenberg said. "I was very pleased that throughout each step everyone was incredibly helpful and willing to move mountains to ensure that the people of Houston were able to receive these much needed goods.

"Once we arrived in Texas, I met with the city officials of Houston to discuss what we in Tinley Park can do to lend a helping hand in the rebuilding process. In that meeting the officials in Houston emphasized that this disaster affected all levels of socioeconomic classes and that the rebuilding process will take some time. I reassured them that Tinley Park would do everything that we can to help them rebuild their great city."

(more)

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“During this journey, the gravity of the situation down in Houston hit me time and again,” Vandenberg continued. “I was particularly struck by something that occurred while we were unloading the goods our residents were kind enough to donate. At one point I unloaded a pallet of baby supplies and before I could grab another pallet a young mother came up, child in hand, and gratefully took what she needed to help her and her child through this tough time. It was at that moment that I saw first hand the impact that our donations would have on the people of Houston.

“I want to thank everyone who was apart of this relief effort,” Vandenberg said. “I saw the devastation in person and I know that these goods are desperately needed in Houston. I am proud to be from Tinley Park where our residents gave so generously to those in need.”

Among the goods donated were gallons of water, canned goods, baby supplies such as diapers, baby food, bottles and formula; a pallet of walkers and about 20 wheelchairs.

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