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## Christmas Day at Pitt expanding out into the community

Friday, December 16, 2022

Pitt's annual Christmas Day at Pitt event is expanding both in scope and the number of volunteers for its 17th year.

The event brings together the Pitt community to serve a holiday meal to members of the city and region who may not have other opportunities to celebrate this season.

More than 400 people will volunteer for this year's event — twice as many as in 2021. This includes 150 people who will help host a meal for 1,000 people at The Eatery at Towers on Dec. 25. All guests will receive a holiday meal, gifts for children and winter accessories for adults. Another 150 volunteers from Pitt Athletics are wrapping gifts ahead of the event to give to children in attendance.

Another 1,500 meals will be distributed to Pitt Community Engagement Center neighborhood partners in Homewood, the Hill District and Hazelwood, and 100 more volunteers will help package those meals ahead of distribution.

"I'm thrilled at the early energy we've had for our Christmas Day meal," said Jamilah Ducar, executive director of the engaged campus. "Pitt Dining and Chartwells have been amazing partners in helping us reimagine how we can get meals out to our neighbors for the holiday. The expanded strategy of an on-campus component and pre-packaged and distributed meals lets us stretch out our efforts and get even more volunteers and partners involved."

The sit-down meals will be available from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Christmas at The Eatery. Meals will be to-go only from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., or until meals run out. Guests must arrive before 1:30 p.m. to be seated.

Finally, in a first-ever holiday partnership with Pitt, the Coats 4 Care Coalition will provide coat distribution to guests. Other partners in the initiative include the Urban League Young Professionals of Greater Pittsburgh, Color Me Urban, The Academia Society and True T PGH.

— *Pittwire*

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