



The JDF Footprints



By Executive Director Carolyn D. Jenkins

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Our volunteers keep us giving!



In rain, snow, sleet, sunny, cloudy and even hazy days, our JDF volunteers are collecting and delivering shoes. We do this because we love what we do. Volunteering to help others is heartwarming and sharing it with family members makes it a wonderful bonding experience. Sometimes kids bring their parents into their volunteer projects. Frequently parents bring their kids into their activities.

Artavia began volunteering to collect shoes with our JDF team and her daughter immediately joined her efforts. Their volunteer work has already improved the lives of dozens of families. We delivered goods to our neighbors in NE Washington, DC just in time for them to prepare for the new school year. We also sent shoes Dayonna and Artavia collected to Georgia for a new outreach we're preparing for Senior Citizens. (We'll give you more information in one of our upcoming newsletters!)

During Artavia and Dayonna's fall collection efforts, a Nike boycott swept throughout the country. People began burning their Nike shoes and apparel. One man photographed and posted his burning event as he was wearing his shoes. He also posted a photograph of his feet, burned, swollen and propped up, from his hospital bed.

Through our social media outlets, we offered an alternative; donate your **Nike's** to us! The underserved and homeless endure more than enough anguish each day. If we can relieve their suffering with a new or gently used pair of **Nike's**, that's exactly what we want do. Anyone can wear clothing that doesn't fit too well, but no one can wear a pair of shoes that don't fit well, for too long.

Fortunately for us, Artavia and Dayonna were ahead of the curve. They collected the first new and gently used **Nikes** we received, and the shoes are still coming in!



Dayonna and Artavia are just two very important members of our volunteer team. We are so fortunate they donate their time, helping us help others. In addition to collecting shoes and clothing, they've been collecting coats we will distribute to the needy this fall and winter.

Thank you Artavia, Dayonna and All of our volunteers. You help us to keep giving!



We'll pay the shipping!

Earlier this summer we met several dedicated podiatrists at the annual **American Podiatric Medical Association Scientific Seminar**. We enjoyed sharing our mission with them and listening to their concerns. One area we can assist them in is to collect their unused diabetic shoes and foot care supplies. These prized items are in high demand for the homeless.

Yahoo! After paying the shipping fees, we began receiving these valuable items this month! If you know a podiatrist who wants to clean out their storage area, please ask them to contact us at

thejdf@jdfffeet.org.

We also accept **donations at jdfffeet.org**. Thank you for helping us help others! **Have fun out there!**

