



The JDF Footprints Happy New Year!

By Executive Director Carolyn D. Jenkins

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Thank You to the Harford Lower Extremity Specialists, HLES, team of Bel Air, MD, for their hearts of gold and healing hands!



Dr. Howard Schultheiss, (pronounced Shull-tice) and his team at HLES challenged our JDF volunteers in late December 2018. Thanks to them, we'll deliver shoes to those in need through the spring of 2019, and we couldn't be happier.

Since 1991, Dr. Schultheiss has been practicing podiatry in Bel Air, MD. With a very successful practice, he could easily rest on his laurels and enjoy the fruit of his labor but that's not the case.



For nearly 2 months during the year, the HLES team collects new and gently used shoes. They donate the shoes to a local nonprofit organization for distribution to the less fortunate. The winning formula the HLES team uses to encourage shoe donations is a raffle. In 2018, donors received a raffle ticket for each pair of shoes they brought in, for a chance to win a **Yeti Cooler** filled with goodies.

With one empty box sitting in the corner, and the raffle items on full

Donate at jdfffeet.org or text NEWSHOES to 44-321

display in the front office, the HLES team patiently collects shoes. When we were



invited to be the fortunate nonprofit organization to pick up and disperse the shoes, we were thrilled.

You cannot imagine our surprise when we saw the tremendous generosity of the Bel Air community. The HLES outreach produced a building packed with bags and bags of shoes for the underserved. Filling our full-size truck, inside and out, with hundreds upon hundreds of pairs of shoes, multiple pick-ups trips would be required.



December is a very busy shoe delivery month for us. Prior to being contacted by Dr. Schultheiss, we had run out of shoes to give away. Now, with just a

few days until Christmas, our JDF shoe elves kicked into high gear.

Sorting through year-round, spring and winter shoes/boots, as well as sorting for men, women, and children, we began filling Santa's list for a nearby family shelter. The HLES donors provided several new pairs of shoes, so we were able to provide many of the children at the shelter with brand new shoes.

Reloading our vehicle with bags of shoes, we supersized our donation by including coats, Bombas socks and lots of clothing for the families in need.



Part of our Christmas eve delivery to the family shelter.

We made our final delivery of 2018 the day after Christmas, and it was very well received. Now, thanks to the generous HLES team and donors, we can help brighten the lives of low-income families through the spring.

Everyone needs a little help at some time. If you or your organization want to help us give shoes to the needy, contact us thejdf@jdfffeet.org. Thank you Dr. Schutheiss for helping others!

Wishing you love, joy, peace and prosperity in 2019