

24th JANUARY 2008

## **Bogus 'charities' cash in on clothes and money collection - Kennedy**

DUBLIN NORTH Fianna Fáil TD, Michael Kennedy, has urged people who are donating their clothes or money to charity to ensure they are dealing with legitimate, registered organisations.

Deputy Kennedy said: "At this time of the year, people tend to clean out their houses and give away unwanted clothes or gifts to charity. Of course, they need to be careful to give to a well-known and reputable organisation."

"Bogus charities are being set up to cash in on people's generosity and they are pocketing the money and selling on the bags of items they receive."

Deputy Kennedy cautioned against organisations purporting to be registered charities: "With the new Charities Bill, a registry for charities will be established and until that time, no such authority exists. Oftentimes, the Revenue number is quoted instead and it is easy to obtain one of these."

"In my area of North Dublin a charity named Second Life is distributing collection leaflets advertising its Ukrainian appeal. The leaflet advertises a registered charity number and Revenue number, neither of which exist. Nor does the mobile phone number quoted."

Deputy Kennedy has spoken regularly in the Dáil on the forthcoming Charities Bill and is Vice-Chairman of the Arts, Sports, Tourism, Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs Committee, which has just completed the amendment process for the Charities Bill.

"This Bill will allow the public to check online, via a public register, to see if a charity is registered with the proposed Charities Regulatory Authority," said Deputy Kennedy.

"For now, I would urge people to resist giving to unknown charities who drop leaflets in homes, unless it is a recognisable charity like Goal or Concern. I know there is a lure to emptying wardrobes for a "charity", however in many cases a person items just end up being sold for profit in other countries – or worse, items are deemed to be sub-standard and illegally dumped."

Government officials are currently examining ways of clamping down on individuals who sell fake Mass cards or organise fake charity clothing collections. The forthcoming Bill will for the first time require "non-cash" charity collectors to have a permit.

"I have been particularly concerned with the issue of "chuggers", those who

collect for charities on our city's streets and have raised this with Minister Carey at committee stage. With my input, I am confident that once the Bill has passed, charity collectors will be required to wear identification linking them to their registered charity."

"I wouldn't like anyone to be deterred from donating to charity. However, I would urge people to take extra care when donating money or personal belongings to ensure that the charity is registered and the items are going to their intended destination," he added.

## Ukrainian Appeal

### Every little helps!

Having been working in the Ukraine since the 1990's after news swept the world revealing a country where the conditions we found were nothing short of horrendous, we were determined to try and help some of the large number of orphanages filled with thousands of seriously neglected children.

We help the people there with medical dispensaries, schools and nurseries and of course orphanages.

Our work continues through the charitable efforts of many helpers and volunteers and of course the general public who every week help our fund raising efforts by donating clothes, which

either go directly to those in need or are used to raise funds for other essential items we require. If you can spare a few moments of your time, to help us help these people, it would be of great benefit to all those concerned. The items we urgently require are listed below.



**HOW CAN YOU HELP!** This is so easy and so rewarding. If you could spend a little time going through your home gathering up any of the items listed and pack in a bag and leave out on the designated day for collection. Again thank you for your time and reading this letter, we all hope that you can be of help to us at this time.

**We gladly accept:**

- CHILDREN'S CLOTHES
- WOMEN & MEN'S CLOTHING
- UNDERWEAR
- BED LINEN
- CURTAINS
- TOWELS
- SHOES

**ANY OF THESE ITEMS WHICH ARE SUITABLE WILL BE SORTED, BAILED & SHIPPED DIRECTLY TO THE UKRAINE FOR RE-WEAR.**

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FILL A PLASTIC BAG WITH YOUR UNWASHED CLOTHES

AND STICK THIS LABEL TO IT

AND LEAVE IT IN CLEAR VIEW ON YOUR DOORSTEP

**YOUR COLLECTION DAY IS:**  
COLLECTION WILL TAKE PLACE WHATEVER THE WEATHER FROM 9.00 A.M.

# TUESDAY

## Thank you

**ANY MISSED BAGS CALL: 086 2262 555**  
PLEASE KEEP PLASTIC BAGS AWAY FROM SMALL CHILDREN & PETS

C-Y REG. NO. 391493

## UKRAINIAN APPEAL

### Help us to provide aid and affordable clothing for a sustainable future



**WE GLADLY ACCEPT:**

- CHILDREN'S CLOTHES
- WOMEN & MEN'S CLOTHING
- UNDERWEAR
- BED LINEN
- CURTAINS
- TOWELS
- SHOES



We ask that all items are of good quality as your kind donations stays intact as wearable items.

All you have to do is fill a bag with your donated clothes and affix the label provided and leave it in full view of the road before 9am on the day indicated below.

**YOUR COLLECTION DAY IS:**

# WEDNESDAY

*Thank You for your support*

If we happen to miss your donation, can you please retain it for us, as we will have another collection in a little while. Please keep plastic bags away from small children & pets.

C-Y REG. NO: 391493(R.o.l.) | SC 309637 [second-life@mail.org](mailto:second-life@mail.org)