

# Wynnewood girl leads way in collecting Halloween garb for less fortunate.

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Several area businesses are working with a Wynnewood girl to make Halloween a treat for kids who might not otherwise had a chance to celebrate.

Eleven-year-old Emma Rose Shapiro has coordinated the Halloween Helpers, placing bins in dozens of businesses throughout the Delaware Valley in hopes of collecting 1,000 costumes for youth at the Greater Norristown Police Athletic League.

“Last fall, I was looking in my closet and I saw a lot of my old Halloween costumes,” she said. “And, I didn’t know what to do with them.”

Then, Shapiro said she thought of others.

“Some kids don’t even get one their whole life,” she said. “These kids deserve Halloween costumes.”

So, she talked to her mother, Ilyse, and they did some research. From there, they chose the Police Athletic League.

They then contacted various businesses and are hoping to collect gently used costumes from infant through adult sizes until Oct. 8. Costumes in Delaware County will be collected through Sept. 25.

The Eye Site at 30 S. MacDade Blvd. in Glenolden is a participant.

“I thought it was just a nice thing to do,” said Diane Walker, payroll administrator for the business. “I thought it was an awesome thing to do.”

She only wished that there was a similar effort to collect costumes for children in Delaware County.

In any case, Walker recalled a nearby dance school, whose name she couldn’t remember, that brought three trash bags full of dance recital costumes.

She had to ask them to keep the bags and she called the seventh grader, who quickly came to pick them up. “She was so thrilled,” Walker said of Shapiro. “Hopefully, she’s successful with it.”

Other sites in Delaware County that are participating in the costume collection include: Jazzercise at C.C. Hancock United Methodist Church, 542 Wesley Road, Springfield; the Main Line Art Center, 746 Panmure Road, Haverford; the Havertown Center, 1105 Earlington Road, Havertown; and, Kids First Haverford, 600 Haverford Road, Haverford.

For details, contact The Halloween Helpers at [thehalloweenhelpers@gmail.com](mailto:thehalloweenhelpers@gmail.com).