

## Scott County says 'Merry Christmas' by supporting 2009 We Care, helping children

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Though the total was a little lower than what was collected in 2008, people in Scott County and surrounding areas certainly did their best to support the 2009 We Care to the tune of \$70,351.50.

Thanks to the many contributions of items for the annual auction and the efforts of scores of volunteers, We Care will be helping 1,582 children. Funds raised go to buy these youngsters new winter coats, shoes and other clothing. The average spent per child is \$44.47.

Most of the children being helped this year are in Scott School Districts 1 and 2. District 1 has 653 participating, while District 2 has 557.

Other children receive help as well. There are 285 at Kids Place in Scottsburg that will receive warm clothing, a number that increased this year by 69 because of the need present in the county.

OVO Head Start is helping 52 of their youngsters, while the Scott County Community Clearinghouse has 25 and Three Springs, the program for challenged teenage boys at Englishton Park, included ten of its population.

The breakdown for District 1 includes: 435 at Austin Elementary and Upper Elementary Schools; 145 at Austin Middle School; and 73 at Austin High School.

In District 2, the numbers were: 215 at Scottsburg Elementary; 88 at Lexington Elementary; 86 at Scottsburg Middle; 65 at Scottsburg High School; 53 at Vienna-Finley; and 50 at Johnson Elementary.

We Care's on-air auction, held December 4 and 5, contributed \$62,764.53 toward the grand total. A wrap-up auction, which included some items not claimed by winning bidders and other items that didn't make it in the auction, added the other dollars.

Though the auction that raises the big bucks happens the first full weekend of December each year, We Care volunteers work year-round to collect money for the cause.

For more information about We Care, call I105.3 FM Radio at 752-3688. Staff there will be glad to provide information about We Care, which is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.