

## **News Release**

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## Off-duty Firefighters 'Fill the Boot' for Muscular Dystrophy Association

Off-duty Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue firefighters will take to the streets next week to once again Fill the Boot for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA).

Tualatin Valley Firefighters Union Local 1660 members will ask passing motorists to drop a donation into their fire boots Friday, May 24, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway and Canyon Road on-ramps and offramps to Highway 217 in Beaverton.

All funds collected through Tualatin Valley Firefighters Union Local 1660's 2024 Fill the Boot event support MDA's lifeenhancing programs, including support groups and clinics, and assist families with medical equipment and costs. They also make MDA summer camp possible so kids with muscle diseases can enjoy a week of fun activities while gaining confidence and independence. MDA serves more than 3,800 individuals across Oregon and over 6,900 individuals in Washington who are affected by neuromuscular disease.

Since 1954, firefighters have fueled MDA's mission to find treatments and cures for life-threatening muscle diseases. Muscular dystrophy, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and other related diseases take away people's ability to walk, move, smile, talk, and even breathe.

To date, the International Association of Fire Fighters has raised more than \$700 million for MDA. This year, TVF&R firefighters hope to raise \$30,000 with the generous support of the community.

Local firefighters invite the community to join them in filling the boot for the MDA. Cash and checks made payable to MDA will be accepted at the Beaverton collection event. Secure online donations can also be made by clicking on the following link: <u>Donate Here</u>.





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