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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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URBANA POLICE DEPARTMENT NEEDS YOUR HELP THIS SEASON

The City of Urbana Police Department is partnering with Strides Shelter, along with other organizations and agencies this season, to help make a difference in the community. Strides and UPD will collect new t-shirts and new socks in various sizes beginning November 1 through November 30, 2024.

Strides Shelter functions as an accessible emergency shelter and resource center for adults facing homelessness, aiming to support community members who are often visible but neglected. Participation in Strides services does not require sobriety, abstinence, or a criminal background check. The program emphasizes and promotes self-determination, empowering each individual to define their own goals for success and the steps they will take to achieve them.

Lieutenant Zac Mikalik encourages the general public to join UPD in their efforts to help Strides Shelter, and other initiatives throughout the holiday season. Please bring new socks and new t-shirts to the UPD lobby and put them in the designated donation box.

“Please help us help those experiencing housing insecurity in our area as we partner with Strides Shelter, a low-barrier emergency shelter resource center,” Mikalik said.

The department will also have a box in the lobby for the Season of Giving Event in partnership with the event’s organizer, the HOYCE Center. Many other agencies are also participating in this giving event. Go [here](#) for more details.

The department will have both of the collection boxes in the UPD lobby daily during the drives from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

UPD is also engaging in a Cunningham Children's Home Christmas Wish List Drive currently., and a Holiday Meal Drive with the Urbana Walmart. In fact, UPD is also participating in three additional "season of giving" initiatives with other area agencies, as they are hoping to help the greater community during a season that can sometimes be stressful for those not having enough to meet their needs.

"The Urbana Police Department truly cares about the people we serve, and we're excited to help out this holiday season," Mikalik said.

To read about the comprehensive list of Urbana Police Department holiday season initiatives, please go [here](#).

For more information about the City of Urbana, please visit www.urbanaininois.us

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