Undie Sunday donations to help the homeless

Many charities collect canned food and clothing items, but one local church is doing things decidedly differently.

Trafalgar Presbyterian Church is asking the community to donate undergarments that will be given away through a busy homeless shelter.

"We heard of this sort of thing happening in Britian and thought it was very clever," said church member Anne Murdoch.

"Our elders joked that it was an idea that everyone could really 'get behind."

As it turned out, the concept of Undie Sunday was not just clever, but much-needed.

Shelters that serve the homeless population often find that clients desperately need undergarments, but such items are rarely donated.

Trafalgar spoke to the people of Evangel Hall Mission, a Toronto organization that supports people living on the streets, who confirmed that they would be thrilled with the church's help.

The church's minister, Rev. Kristine O'Brien, has encouraged people to shop thoughtfully for undergarments to donate.

"I hope that people choose not just random items, but undergarments in their own size, and of a quality that they might wear themselves. It begins to hit home when we realize that the people who are homeless are not that different from us."

All donations for Undie Sunday must be new and in their original packaging.

They will be collected at a special service on March 27 at 10 a.m. at the church.

The day will also include the screening of a film by Halton teenager Lucy Ding.

Ding, an award winning Grade 12 student at Milton District High School, created "Untold Stories" after her experience at Evangel Hall.

Young people from Trafalgar will then visit the centre and deliver the 'undies' that have been collected.

Members of the community are welcome to contribute.

To reach Trafalgar Presbyterian Church (905-842-2800 or www.trafalgarchurch.ca) take Trafalgar Road to White Oaks Boulevard; turn onto Litchfield Road and follow the signs to the end of the street.



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