UNDIE UNDIE Sunday

Undie Sunday Undie Monday (USUM) is an annual campaign that gives our community an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the life of someone who is going without basic need. During this month long campaign, we ask the community to donate men, women, and children's new underwear, new undershirts and/or new socks to the Springfield Rescue Mission.

All donations will be distributed to residents in our Men's New Life Program, guests of our Emergency Shelter and Give Away Center and those we meet in the community through our mobile-feeding program called Operation SONshine.

This annual campaign runs from **October 1 to October 31**. Please return all donations by **Nov. 10**.
You can drop off your donations at the Springfield
Rescue Mission (address below) between **Monday through Saturday, 8am to 6pm.**

This is a great opportunity for individuals or groups through schools, churches and/or work places to get involved!

Another way to support us is to purchase any of these suggested items online through our website under Shop to Give. Your donation will be shipped directly to the Rescue Mission.

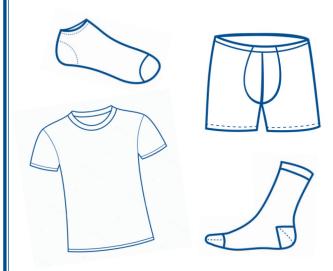
For questions and more information, please contact:

Robin Gobeille, Development Coordinator, at 413-732-0808 ext. 237

Suggested NEW items to donate:

- Men's Boxer Briefs, Undershirts, Socks (all sizes)
- Women's Underwear, Undershirts, and Socks (all sizes)
- Children's Underwear, Undershirts and socks (all sizes)

Due to our Men's Programs, boxer briefs sizes large and XL and undershirts sizes XL and 2XL are most needed









How Undie Sunday/Undie Monday Started

In 1987 a gentleman came through our doors asking if we knew of a place he could take a shower. We knew of the man's need before he saw him from the unpleasant smell wafting down the hall. The man was visibly hungry and very dirty, with dirty rags for clothes. He needed a shower and something nourishing to eat.

We gave him toiletries and directed him to the showers. While he was showering, we took his rags and threw them away. We placed new underwear, a t-shirt and socks on the chair outside the shower as well as gently used, clean clothing. He appeared from the wash room looking like a new man.

We gave him a big helping of food and talked to him for a while. You see, this homeless man was once a local attorney who lost everything to drinking - all his possessions and his family. Mingled in with his story, he kept telling us over and over how thankful he was for his new underwear. We asked if he needed a place to stay for the night and he declined. After he finished eating, he left and we never saw him again.

A couple of years later our Executive Director received a letter with a donation check inside. It was from our homeless friend. He explained that by the grace of God he ended up in the Midwest and pull his life back together. He never forgot that act of compassion and kindness he received here at the Springfield Rescue Mission and wanted to pay that forward to others who had lost their way. He re-established a law firm and received the settlement check from a case. He sent the money to the Springfield Rescue Mission with explicit instructions to use it to buy new underwear for people who come to us off the streets. It made such a big difference in his life and he knew it would do the same for others.

The Springfield Rescue Mission helps restore dignity and hope to the lost.