



# THE WARM UP<sup>2017</sup>

Many Park Heights residents are left in the COLD!



Sponsored by Love In The Park, Beacon of Light Church, and UNIFI

**Can you imagine not having the proper winter wear  
to face a COLD Baltimore winter?**

Neither can we at the Love In The Park, Beacon of Light Church and the United Nation of Individuals Fighting Impossibilities (UNIFI).

For many families in Baltimore, specifically in Park Heights, necessity often dictates that shelter, heat and electricity often take precedence over coats and other proper winter clothing, which leaves many families, including children, in the cold!

Sadly this year, the holiday season will be a difficult time for many families of the Park Heights community who have fallen on hard times and can't feed or clothe their loved ones adequately. By providing the basic winter essentials including coats, hats, scarves, and/or gloves, we can fulfill a critical need for many families on a tight budget, allowing them to redirect their resources toward other necessary household expenses.

With most nights below freezing in Baltimore each winter, giving a person in need warm winter wear can greatly reduce the potential for illnesses brought on by freezing temperatures.

On Saturday, December 16, 2017, local Park Heights resident Steven Johnson and his wife Ashley will host their 6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL WARM UP to give away FREE coats and other winter clothing to over 100 residents of the Park Heights community. This year, their organization, Love In The Park, has teamed up with the Beacon of Light Citadel of Praise Church and the United Nation of Individuals Fighting Impossibilities (UNIFI) to provide support and promotion for this important event.

This joyous day of giving will combine service, fellowship, music, and light refreshments to serve the community and raise awareness of the greater need for resources in the Park Heights community. However, to provide the much needed, free winter wear to low-income residents in the Park Heights community, Love In The Park, Beacon of Light Church and UNIFI NEED YOUR HELP!

We need donations of new or gently used winter wear including coats, hats, scarves, gloves or boots in all sizes; from newborn to adult. Our most needed

sizes are adult extra-large and larger. From firsthand and anecdotal experience, we know that the proper winter wear builds confidence and strong self-esteem in the families we serve.

So please go through your closet or to your local store to support our give-away with any warm clothing you can spare including coats, hats, scarves, gloves or boots. We will be accepting donations at Beacon of Light Citadel of Praise Church, 2620 Quantico Ave, Baltimore, MD 21215 every Wednesday between 6:00 – 8:00 PM, every Saturday between 12:00 – 2:00 PM, and on other days and times when you contact us to schedule a drop-off, until December 16, 2017.

We will also pick up donations or arrange other drop off locations! Please contact Steven Johnson at Love In The Park at 443-619-9868 or [steventjohnson3@gmail.com](mailto:steventjohnson3@gmail.com) or Amanda Stephenson, UNIFI at 202.744.1873 or [president@unifiinc.org](mailto:president@unifiinc.org) to schedule a pick up or drop off.

Finally, we are also accepting donations in the form of cash or checks and possibly debit or credit card, and we will use these donations to purchase coats for families in need.

If you are interested in donating, attending the event, or learning more about our work, please contact us (see above) or please see the [Baltimore Sun article about our 2015 Coat Drive](#), the Facebook page of [Beacon of Light Citadel of Praise Church](#), and the website for [UNIFI](#).

Thank you for any offerings of support you can provide!

**Love In The Park** – Steven Johnson and his wife Ashley launched Love In The Park in 2011. The Mission of Love In The Park is to assist the historically prominent community of Park Heights in reclaiming its luster, and sustainability, while completing intentional acts of love and kindness through service, and community building.

**Beacon of Light Citadel of Praise Church** - Beacon of Light Citadel of Praise has been a staple in the west Baltimore community of Park Heights for over 40 years. It is the vision of Beacon of Light to be an institute of learning that equips, empowers, and establishes individuals in the Word of God and the Work of the Kingdom and Community. It is our belief that this can be accomplished by engaging in effective, efficient, well-balanced, and multi-dimensional efforts.

**UNIFI** - United Nation of Individuals Fighting Impossibilities (UNIFI) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established to fight in defense of those individuals who do not have the means to combat attrition in education, employment, health and other social and economic conditions. Our mission is to empower vulnerable individuals and to improve the quality of their life through educational/workforce development training programs in business, medicine, arts and entertainment, and volunteerism.