

## Tyndale Students “Go Downtown”

“Would you like a hat, a scarf, a pair of mittens, and some warm socks?” This question was repeated many times on January 17 by sixteen Tyndale students to those who lived on the streets of downtown Toronto. Tyler Gray, currently a 4th year student from Shoe Cove, initiated this ministry last year. While Tyler is on internship, I decided that this ministry should continue this year. With the help of Aaron Patey, a 2nd year student from Deer Lake, the painting began.

We received these winter necessities from our friends and family, as well as four Newfoundland churches that gave donations, going above and beyond our highest expectations! We are very thankful for the donations given by Cormack Pentecostal Church, Cormack Anglican Parish, Evangel Pentecostal Tabernacle in Grand Falls, and Pasadena Pentecostal Church. Last year, many men and women requested warm socks so we decided to collect these as well. We were also blessed with monetary donations this year, with which we bought emergency blankets, bottled water, and granola bars.

Our group more than doubled this year. It was great to see the excitement of the new students and a continued interest from the 2nd and 3rd year stu-

dents. After meeting together to organize the donations and to pray, the event that we had been anticipating arrived. We split into four groups and headed out across the east side of downtown. The months of preparation, the hours of walking, the heavy bags, and the chilly weather seemed so insignificant. We were rewarded with a smile on a stranger's face, a genuine “thank you,” or a silent look of appreciation. Some groups had the opportunity to have real, meaningful conversations with lonely and desperate people and one group was able to pray with a homeless woman.

We all arrived back at Tyndale exhausted, but eager to share our stories. This opportunity was eye opening. It made us all come to a greater appreciation of how blessed we are. We are thankful for the opportunity to minister to those who are down-and-out and to be able to help them in a small but practical way. Our prayer was that this would go beyond just receiving hats and mittens but it would really impact them on a deeper level. We prayed that they would see Jesus in us and

that we would be able to spread His love to those who may not often experience it. We believe this ministry was a success and all the glory is God's! We hope to continue this ministry next year. If any individuals or churches would like to participate please contact [rebecca-soper05@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca-soper05@gmail.com).



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