



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Biddeford Police Department Hosts Second Annual Coat Drive with United Way of Southern Maine**

*Organizers aim to collect 250 coats to distribute to individuals in need*

BIDDEFORD (December 8, 2021) — The Biddeford Police Department has once again partnered with the United Way of Southern Maine for a winter coat drive that will benefit Biddeford community members.

There are five locations throughout the city that new or gently-used coats and winter weather items will be collected this year: the Biddeford Police Department, Biddeford Fire Department, Brady's Screen Printing, Godbout Plumbing, and Walmart.

Collection boxes were distributed to each drop-off location on Wednesday, December 8. Donations must be dropped off by Wednesday, January 5, 2020.

“Last year when we partnered with the United Way for a winter coat drive, we set out to collect 250 coats and we were blown away by the generosity of the Biddeford community when we ended up with nearly 1,000 donations of winter apparel items,” said Sgt. Steve Gorton. “This year has been yet another difficult year for many members of our community, and we wanted create another opportunity to help people stay warm and make ends meet this winter.”

For more information, please contact Jacob Hammer, the Biddeford Police Department Community Engagement Specialist, at 207-282-5127.

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*Photo: Jacob Hammer, Biddeford Police Department Community Engagement Specialist (Left) and Officer Justin Lavertue (Right) sort through coat donations from the BPD's 2020 coat drive.*