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From: **Jonathan Kumar** <j@samaritan.city>

Date: Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 6:27 PM

Subject: samaritan — designing an apparel line for the houseless

Hey! My name is Jonathan and I work on Samaritan. And because I'm too cheap to pay for downtown parking, I typically bike to Pioneer Square from the U-District where I live.

One year ago last December, there was an evening that I was working pretty late and, honestly, I worked even later because I was not excited about riding home. Even though I'm from the midwest ([Buffalo](#) before that), I still get cold easily. You'll routinely see me in a down jacket and gloves even when it's 39° out. On this chilly night, I hadn't any gloves, I was hungry, and the moment I stepped outside, I was *cold*.

As I chugged home, my mind circled the drain, grumbling to itself why our team couldn't take more on that day, how noble I was to stay late, and various other insecurities. I entered the U-District, with streetlamps and churches lighting my way north on 15th St. Invisible needles were pricking my hands on the handlebars when something caught my attention to the right. I turned to catch a glimpse of an unidentifiable human huddled in a thin blanket in the entranceway of a church.

It was a snapshot, but it was long enough. I wear the warmest of gear to survive 30 minutes outside on a commute, while thousands spend 48 times that amount outdoors everyday.

Six months later, we brought in [a guest designer](#) from Chicago over the summer to interview beacon holders and build apparel that would bring them dignity plus warmth—**an apparel line for the houseless**.



([tap GIF to view store](#))

To fund this project, **50** of you are now able to purchase a beanie or hoodie for yourself or a friend. We charge twice the price that it costs to make 'em, so that your purchase provides a free piece to someone living unsheltered. Buy one, clothe one.

Our hope is to arm our friends with new protection against the unforgiving weather they're forced to live through (for now). We already sold 20 sets this morning, so I invite you to [purchase a piece](#) and help share an essential message with our city community.

–Jonathan

ps. a few of users have asked if you can donate the piece you purchase as well. Leave that request in Additional Instructions as you checkout and we will distribute it and mail you a christmas card instead :)