

Dear friends,

Over the last two years, students of the Fargo, Moorhead, and West Fargo area have made history by creating two of the largest youth-led food drives in the state. The peoples of these communities have raised and gathered over 100 tons of food and 60,000 dollars for the Great Plains Food Bank.

Over the past five years, emergency food providers have reported a 42% increase in food shelf visits, while food donations have only grown by 5%. With one in twelve North Dakota residents seeking emergency food assistance each year, and nearly half of these being children, we feel that hunger is an issue worth solving.

This year's Fill the Dome project strives to raise 75 tons of food, 75,000 dollars, and 7,500 signatures of awareness. This new goal has been added because we feel awareness is the key to resolving the issue of hunger. We hope that the 7,500 signatures gathered will represent a portion of the population that otherwise was uninformed of the need for food in our communities. The goals this year are much higher than in previous years, but we believe they are realistic and attainable with your help.

To achieve these goals we have partnered with the Great Plains Food Bank, members of the local hunger coalition, and the Impact Foundation, through which a charitable fund has been established. All donations made to this fund are tax deductible. Seventy percent of the money raised will go to rural communities across the state, while remaining funds will stay in the Fargo-Moorhead area.

We ask you to consider what we have shared with you in this letter and support us in our mission to solve hunger. Every person who becomes aware of this issue and shares it with others helps contribute to resolving this cause. Even with a donation of one dollar, the Great Plains Food Bank can buy eleven dollars worth of food for their pantries. We would greatly appreciate your support of the Fill the Dome project in any possible way. A self-addressed envelope has been included for a donation. To learn more, we invite you to visit our website, [www.fillthedome.org](http://www.fillthedome.org). Thanks!

Sincerely,

Student Ambassadors