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Fill the Dome students deserve high praise

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By: **Erin Prochnow**, Fargo

The YWCA Cass Clay would like to commend the Fill the Dome students for their extraordinary efforts to help address hunger issues in our community and surrounding region. As a result of their valiant efforts, the YWCA Emergency Shelter has been able to provide food to those we serve on an ongoing basis from November of 2008 to the present time. We are still using and distributing food received from the 2008 Fill the Dome project. Food from this project has been used to serve homeless women and children residing at the YWCA shelter as well as to serve individuals and families through our community food basket program.

These individuals and families do not seek shelter at this time, but are in need of support as they often find themselves one paycheck away from becoming homeless. Providing a food basket to help make ends meet can make a significant difference and is one way to prevent homelessness.

We recently learned the new group of student leaders chose to focus their service learning project again on hunger issues. They plan to host the third annual Fill the Dome event this November. The group has increased its goal from last year and plans to raise \$75,000 and collect 75 tons of food.

The students' greatest accomplishment through this project continues to be providing inspiration to the younger generation by modeling the importance of giving back. We can't say thank you enough to this group of remarkable student leaders for their efforts. We are proud to have them as part of our community and believe they will continue to lead and impact the world around them for years to come.

Prochnow is executive director, YWCA Cass Clay.

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