

## Red Ribbon Community Service Project

Student Name: Andrew Fouty  
Grade Level: Eight Grade  
School Name: Christ the King Catholic School  
Red Ribbon Coordinator: Mrs. McDuff  
Start Date of Project: October 1, 2016



*Please describe your project. Tell us why you decided on the project, how you executed the project, and what the outcome was.*

Homelessness is a real problem in Mobile. People become homeless because of several factors, including: mental illness, loss of jobs, a physical handicap, or struggles with drugs or substance abuse. While homeless people may not always be easy to see, they exist. And they often have children. These children have a hard life. Waking up on the streets, going to school hungry, and leaving school with homework but no home to do the work in. They may live in a different place each night, a hotel, a car, or a shelter. As a result, they have few possessions and almost no personal space.

My project focused around providing some personal possessions to these homeless children, things they might need, and things they might want. Before starting the project, I talked with Denise Riemer, a social worker for the Mobile County Schools, to find out what items would be most useful.

Then, along with the Christ the King faculty and Student Council, we decided on: shampoo, conditioner, water bottles, ear buds, T-shirts, five dollar McDonald's gift cards, deodorant, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. After we had decided upon the items, we assigned them to certain grades. For example, eight grade was assigned ear buds.



Some of the items collected by Christ the King students.

We had a great response from all of the classes at Christ the King. We placed all the items in mesh bags, blue for boys, light purple for girls. We got enough supplies to make thirty-four bags. We presented the items to Mr. Jefferson, the CEO of Housing First. He will disperse the bags to homeless children in Mobile. The extra supplies that did not fit in the bags will be donated to other charities in Mobile.



Delivering the supplies to Mr. Jefferson, CEO of Housing First.

*How did your project affect the community?*

This project affected the community at Christ the King by spreading awareness about homeless children. I did not realize there were so many homeless children in our community, and I think other children at Christ the King also did not realize this. This also affected the homeless community by letting them know that they are not alone and that we think and care about them.

*Did the project have an affect on you? How so? What did you learn?*

This project affected me by reminding me of how lucky I am to be able to go to a good school, be able to fill my stomach, and having a place to call home where I can have my own personal space. It helped me not take for granted everyday things because there are some children who would love to be in my situation. This project also demonstrated to me the value of teamwork because this was a project that required many people.