

A Small Boy With A Big Heart

The start of another school year is just around the corner. When it comes time for your child or children to have a “Show N Tell” or write a story about what they did this summer, what will they have to report? Here is the heart-warming story of Adam Bradberry, age 7, and what he will write about.

Adam is a very special young man. A couple of months ago he had a strong urge to help the homeless. He probably came by this idea from his parents who have always spoken to their three children about the many families who do not have the same things their family has and are in great need. He immediately asked his mother how he could help. His mother, Gretchen Ludicke, called the Homeless Family Center and arranged a tour of the facility. Adam and his mother saw the center, an old nursing home converted into a homeless family center. There were no children there; they were all out with their parents or at daycare. He thought the individual and community rooms were clean and the children’s play area was full of “cool” toys. He found out that he was too young (you must be 18) to volunteer at the center, so he immediately began to think of another way of helping.

He came up with the idea of collecting 100 pounds of food from his neighbors to give to the homeless. He made signs for his green wagon and thank you notes and set out going from door to door asking neighbors for thoughtful and loving donations. He gave himself two months to complete his goal. The neighbors were most welcoming and helpful. Most gave him food and other things like office supplies. Some asked him to come back. He did not give up. He was persistent. He was determined to reach his goal of 100 pounds because he knew that there were people who needed the help and every contribution counted. Even someone who is seven years old can make a difference.

If you have a child wanting to do something special for the needy, contact Jodi Simon, the Administrative Assistant at 772-567-5537. Helping to turn a life around can be anyone's calling and goal. Jodi will work with you and your children to find an age appropriate way of contributing to the homeless.

The Homeless Family Center provides opportunities for homeless families to end homelessness by achieving self-sufficiency through education, living wages and permanent housing. For more information or a tour of the Homeless Family Center call 772-567-5537 or visit the HFC website at www.homelessfamilycenter.com so you can have more information about how you and your child can help change the world one step at a time.



Adam Bradberry accepting a food donation from neighbor Kay England.