

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE OF ISSUE: FRIDAY 30 APRIL 2010

YOUNG STUDENTS FUNDRAISE – BUT DON'T WANT CASH!

A group of 14-16 students have been fundraising with a difference for the Yeovil Night Shelter Project – by collecting toiletries instead of cash!

The Year 10 school pupils from Buckler's Mead, Westfield, Preston and Huish Episcopi schools are studying for a BTEC Introductory Diploma in Health and Care with the College one day a week. They visited the Yeovil Night Shelter (YNSP) as part of their course and were very keen to support the charity, which relies on private donations for 90% of its income.

Rather than trying to raise money, the students decided to ask for practical donations of essentials such as flannels, soap, shower gel, deodorant, tooth brushes and toothpaste instead. Students of Preston School event wrote to parents asking for donations.

There was an excellent response from friends, family and staff at the College and schools, allowing the students to make up more than 50 separate soap bags ready for use. The bags of toiletries will now be given to people using the Night Shelter.

Chris Gibbons, Manager of the YNSP, said *"It's fantastic that these students are already keen to help the less fortunate at their age. This project is great as it opens people's eyes to the basic needs of homeless people. These bags will make a real, concrete contribution to the health of those living on the street."*



Erin Thomas (below right) said *"We have worked as a team to collect the toiletries for the Night Shelter. After visiting the Shelter in November, we really wanted to do something to help. After working hard together over the last few months, we've managed to put together 53 bags for the Shelter, which we're really proud of."*



Melissa Musgrove (above) added *"This project has really opened my eyes and changed my views on homeless people."*

Course lecturer Denise Hodgson (below centre) said "I'm very impressed with the way that this 14-16 group are developing. Though they are young students, they embraced the idea of fundraising together in this unique way. It's been so rewarding to watch the group take control of their own fundraising project and put so much effort into collecting as much as they can. I feel very proud to be working alongside these young people and we're all very grateful to everyone who has supported them."



visit www.yeovil.ac.uk.

For more information on Yeovil College's provision for 14-16 year old students,

... ENDS

Notes to Editors

All press enquiries to Eileen Furze, Marketing Officer t: (01935) 845322 e: eileen.furze@yeovil.ac.uk
www.yeovil.ac.uk

Yeovil Night Shelter Project Information on the YNSP can be found at www.yeovilnightshester.com.