SHOES 04/17/2019 D.VHAA

This year is the third annual Shoe Away Hunger fundraiser hosted by different clubs at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. The Chancellor’s Student Ambassadors, the Honors Program, Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Pi Sigma, and the Collegiate Honors Society are raising money for food banks in St. Paul and Minneapolis. Destinie Vhaa (VAH) has the story.

MP3 R/T 1:13 O/C: STD.

DESTINIE VHAA: SHOE AWAY HUNGER IS A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION THAT GOOD IN THE HOOD, LOCATED IN ST. LOUIS PARK, MINNESOTA, HAS ADAPTED FOR THE METRO AREA. CHANCELLOR’S STUDENT AMBASSADOR, BIOLOGY AND SPANISH SENIOR ALANNA BRAM, THE FOUNDER OF SHOE AWAY HUNGER AT UWRF, BEGAN THIS FUNDRAISER THREE YEARS AGO BY HERSELF AND SINCE THEN HAS COLLECTED OVER TWO THOUSAND PAIRS OF SHOES AND ADDED MORE SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS TO IT.

ALANNA BRAM: “THERE’S NO OTHER SHOE DRIVE THAT I’VE EVER HEARD OF THAT WILL TAKE SHOES THAT ARE BROKEN, MISMATCHED THAT WOULD OTHERWISE GO IN THE LANDFILL SO THAT WAS REALLY SPECIAL. AND ALSO A LOT OF SHOES ARE GOING ALL THE WAY TO OTHER COUNTRIES AND BENEFITING CHILDREN ALL ACROSS THE WORLD, WHICH IS GREAT, BUT EVEN THE FACT THAT IT IS SO CLOSE TO OUR COMMUNITY, THAT WAS SOMETHING THAT I WAS FOCUSED ON.”

DESTINIE VHAA: NOW THAT THE FUNDRAISER HAS GROWN, BRAM IS HOPING TO EXPAND THE FUNDRAISER OUTSIDE OF CAMPUS LIFE.

ALANNA BRAM: “LAST YEAR WE HAD ALL THE DORMS, AND WE HAD SOME OF THE ACADEMIC BUILDINGS, THE FALCON CENTER AND WE HAD FAMILY FRESH SO THAT WAS OUR FIRST STEP INTO COMMUNITY. THIS YEAR WE DO HAVE HOPES OF GREAT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.”

DESTINIE VHAA: BRAM SAYS THAT SHE HOPES BUSINESSES LIKE THE POST OFFICE AND THE SCHOOLS OPEN UP TO THE IDEA OF ENGAGING IN THE DRIVE. FOR THE FALCON NEWS SERVICE, THIS IS DESTINIE VHAA.

The shoe drive begins on campus on Friday, April 19.

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