

Good in the 'Hood serves families in need

Written by

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Good in the 'Hood, a Minneapolis-based charity and community enablement organization, announced their latest venture with Normandale Community College. The program is called Campus Cupboard and is designed to serve school families in need.

"We believe hunger has a detrimental impact upon personal grades and the overall rate of graduation," said founder Shawn Morrison. "Our intention is to move people forward and to improve their quality of life by eliminating on-campus student hunger and to help improve individual grades of those enrolled at Normandale Community College and to have a positive impact upon the overall rate of graduation."

The Campus Cupboard is a program of Good in the 'Hood on the campus of Normandale Community College in Bloomington, MN. The purpose of our program is to collaborate in order to build successful futures together. This will be achieved as we do our part by addressing the physical needs of economically-challenged students that are coming to class hungry due to their inability to afford regular meals. According to a recent on-campus survey of over 400 students, 25% of those surveyed stated that they could not afford to purchase meals and that they were attending classes suffering with hunger.

This program is for students that declare a financial hardship by completing the necessary application to be enrolled. Eligible students will receive 21 points per month with each food item being worth 1 point. These points cannot be sold, bartered, traded or carried over to the next month. The program will be managed by students as a community service classroom opportunity and is intended to be for enrolled students only.

"We believe this collaboration with Normandale Community College is leading the way in considering the needs of students. Soon, we expect to begin providing personal items and other essentials," added Morrison. As this model proves to be successful, Good in the 'Hood's long-term vision is to establish a Campus Cupboard in every community college in the Twin Cities by 2020. The objective is to eliminate hunger and to provide support for the basic needs of all local community college students in order to advance their overall educational experience and quality of life.

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Good in the 'Hood is an urban-based partnering organization committed to initiating and sustaining focused acts of kindness as a means of inspiring neighborhood decency and transformation. So far in 2012 we have collaborated with Union Gospel Mission and Cedarcrest Church to provide over a quarter million pounds of food to nearly 10,000 Minnesotans. Visit us at www.goodinthehood.org.