



Press Release

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St. Cecilia Academy students collect for Haiti earthquake relief

The St. Cecilia Academy freshman class just completed a school-wide drive for Haitian relief efforts. Initiated and coordinated by the officers of the freshman class, the school collected a van-load of supplies to ship to Haiti to help with disaster relief efforts.

Freshman class officers Alanna Foley, Maggie Mech, Mary Marshall Anderson, and Amy Bray, with support of their classmates, initiated and promoted the drive. Plans for the relief effort were completed, with announcements posted throughout SCA, less than a week after the disastrous earthquake hit Haiti.

The necessary materials were divided up by class, with medical supplies gathered from the freshman, water and baby supplies from the sophomore class, food from juniors and basic supplies and toiletries from the seniors. Service and outreach are important facets of the St. Cecilia Academy community; as the newest members of that community, the freshmen were proud to mobilize the school response to the problems in Haiti.

The relief drive was scheduled from Jan. 18-28 and the student body answered quickly. By the Jan. 28, as the freshmen packed up the SCA van, the supplies had poured in. Ninety-seven gallons of water, 28 tubes of antibiotic cream, 450 ounces of hydrogen peroxide, 44 boxes of pain relievers, 75 blankets and 32 large boxes of band-aids represent a sampling of the many supplies collected.

Mary Marshall Anderson was able to get signs and posters donated to promote the drive around school from Cop/e Pro. L.L.C. She said the posters made an impact with the images of the devastation.

Libby Goldammer, an SCA teacher who serves as a freshman class advisor, drove the supplies to Brent Gambrell Ministries. The ministries, which served as a gathering point for relief supplies, supervised the shipment of St. Cecilia Academy's supplies into Haiti.

St. Cecilia Academy is Nashville's oldest private high school, founded in 1860 by the Dominican Sisters of the St. Cecilia Congregation. The Academy has been named to the Top 50 best Catholic high schools in the U.S. list four times since 2004. Seventy-eight percent of the Class of 2009 earned college scholarships totaling \$4.6 million. Five St. Cecilia Academy students—9% of the senior class—have been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program for high scores on the PSAT for 2009.