



News Release

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EAGLE SCOUT HELPS PREPARE LOCAL HOMELESS TEENS FOR EMERGENCIES

REDMOND, September 21, 2007 – Kyle Cook, an Eagle Scout candidate from Woodinville, WA, has taken the Boy Scout motto of “Be Prepared” to a new level. As part of his Eagle Scout project, Kyle decided to create and donate emergency preparedness kits to Friends of Youth, a local organization that provides a broad range of services to young people in need, including homeless shelters, foster homes, and transitional and permanent housing.

Kyle became interested in emergency preparedness when he took a Fire Safety class offered through his high school. He said he saw how unprepared people were during the storms last winter and knew he wanted to do something about it. He also said, “I wanted to do something to help kids because I’m a kid.”

To begin the project, Kyle met with the Woodinville fire department, conducted internet research, and met with other people in the emergency preparedness field. He raised almost \$2,500 through car washes and donations from his family and friends. In addition, Kyle received in-kind donations from Lisa Hart, Prevention Medical, Dr. Everett Dental Office and Cardinal Health.

Kyle designed the kits, stocking each one with: a case of water in 1-liter bottles, latex gloves, band aides, dental floss, toothbrushes, ice packs, rolls of gauze, ace bandages. Kyle also included a Red Cross emergency kit, which he determined was the most cost effective way of including all the items it contained. Kyle used the donated money, in-kind gifts, and negotiated discounts to create a total of 30 kits that will help up to 54 Friends of Youth residents and clients survive after a disaster.

Kyle’s Boy Scout Troop 573 helped assemble the kits and deliver them to the Friends of Youth administrative offices in Redmond. As a final piece of the



project, Kyle trained managers from each Friends of Youth program site on how to use and maintain the kits.

Ed Belleba, President and CEO Friends of Youth, said “These kits are incredibly helpful to us. Emergencies can strike at any time and it is important that all of the youth we serve, regardless of their current circumstances, are as safe as possible. We cannot thank Kyle enough for all of his work.”

Through this process, Kyle says he learned life skills, money management, leadership, and business skills. He also learned a lot about emergency preparedness, which will come in handy when he pursues his goal of becoming a firefighter.

About Friends of Youth:

Friends of Youth is a non-profit agency that provides a continuum of services to youth and their families in King and Snohomish Counties, including homeless shelters, transitional housing, outreach, mental health counseling and substance abuse prevention and treatment. We help young people in challenging situations get their lives back on track. For more information, visit www.friendsofyouth.org.

Additional Information:

Kyle’s E-Prep Kits Contain:

- Backpack
- Battery Powered Flashlight (batteries included)
- Battery Powered Radio (batteries included)
- Emergency Blanket
- Food Bars (4,800 calories total)
- Work Gloves (one pair)
- Light Sticks (3 each; one lasts 12 hours)
- Moist Towelettes (6)
- Breathing Mask (NIOSH-N95)
- Plastic Sheeting (10'x10')
- Rain Poncho
- Personal First Aid Kit
- Roll of Duct Tape
- Water Container (2.5 gallon)
- Whistle
- Emergency First Aid Guide
- Family First and Preparedness Guide
- case of water in 1-liter bottles
- latex gloves
- band aides
- dental floss
- toothbrushes
- ice packs
- rolls of gauze
- ace bandages

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