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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eight-Year-Old Persuades Parents to Let Him Help Homeless



Just before the holidays, eight-year-old Aaron Hammer of Fairless Hills was given an assignment in school to write a persuasive letter. The third grader took this opportunity to beg his parents for an experience that, in his words, would be the time of his life. When the letter made its way home among piles of homework and papers, Aaron's parents were astounded by their son's request:

"Mom and Dad...About the fresh lemonade stand, I have to do it. I've got a perfect plan. You can hold a tray of lemonade and we can go around the neighborhood. I can say: 'Would you like to help the homeless shelter by buying lemonade?' I really need to do it! I really, really, really, really want to do it. I really do. I'll do anything to earn for it. I want to help the homeless badly. I will even stop fighting with my sister Kaylin. It will be the best time of my life."

Most kids Aaron's age were asking for tangible things, so his request really surprised his parents, Patti and Larry Hammer. "Where did this come from?" they wondered. Aaron had never before mentioned the homeless shelter or the assignment.

Given the frigid temperatures this time of year, Aaron's parents didn't exactly agree to the lemonade stand, but they granted his wish to help the homeless. The Hammers asked friends and family members to donate to the Bucks County Emergency Homeless Shelter, a program of Family Service, promising fresh-baked cookies in return.

When Aaron stopped by the shelter to drop off his \$415 donation and 50 handmade scarves from his grandmother, he was beaming with pride – and so were his parents. Rightfully so.

To learn more about the Bucks County Emergency Homeless Shelter, visit www.fsabc.org/homeless-services. To make a donation, contact Ernie Nocito, Director of Development, at enocito@fsabc.org or (215) 757-6916, ext. 208.

Pictured above: Aaron Hammer and Ernie Nocito, Director of Development, Family Service Association of Bucks County.

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The mission of Family Service Association of Bucks County is to protect, maintain, strengthen and enhance individuals, families and children and their social and psychological functioning. Visit www.fsabc.org to donate, volunteer and learn more about how Family Service helps more than 22,000 children, adults and seniors each year.