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Young fundraisers help homeless



Matthew Constantine, Boaz Harris, Mathew Kennedy and Emily Hadley raised money through a bottle drive for Our Place shelter as part of a class assignment.

Amy Dove/News staff

By [Amy Dove - Goldstream News Gazette](#)

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When the quartette of fundraisers pulled into the bottle depot, they thought one cart would be enough.

It wasn't long before they had to grab another, and then another. They sorted their haul, organizing 2,314 bottles and cans for a refund. That left them with \$181.40 — not bad for three days work.

“When I found out how much money it was, I was like ‘wow, that’s more that I will make in a year,’” says Matthew Constantine, 10.

Constantine, together with classmates Mathew Kennedy, 11, Boaz Harris, 10, and Emily Hadley, 10, raised the money for Our Place, a homeless shelter and support service in Victoria.

The work stems from a class project at Lighthouse Christian Academy where Grade 5 students were tasked with raising money for the charity of their choice.

Picking Our Place was a good fit because Harris’ mom works at the facility and homelessness is a serious problem, the students say.

“It’s actually a really big problem because people don’t have food or shelter,” Kennedy says. “Around here you don’t really see people living on the streets, but if you go downtown ... you’ll see a lot of people.”


The money will be used to purchase socks and underwear for men, as well as a portion given as cash.

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