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LHS Senior Capstone Students

When you see a teenager, what do you generally think? Do the words lazy, entitled, and reckless often cross your mind? Well, a group of students at Lowell High School are defying all of those stereotypes. Groups from the Senior Capstone class at the high school are volunteering in our community, other cities, and helping address needs across the world. They are using their creativity, knowledge, and generosity to help the community as well as the less fortunate in other countries. For example, in our city, there are two groups of four teens that worked at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM). These groups did anything from demolition, to painting, and finally, organization. Tyler Garter, an LHS senior working at FROM, stated, "I felt good about myself because I did something to help out the community." Another Senior Capstone group worked with the residents of Green Acres retirement home. They spent time with the senior citizens exercising with them, painting the women's nails, and just spending time with them in general. Using connections with LHS drama department, a group arranged to have the musical cast decorate lunch bags for Kid's Food Basket in downtown Grand Rapids; the bags were donated and the students worked at the kitchen for a day. Also, a group extended the reach of the class beyond Lowell by working at Mackenzie's Animal Shelter in Lake Odessa where the students are working in the dog kennels. Expanding to a worldwide scope, a group has been working to raise awareness about the current epidemic of the shortage of clean water in Haiti through a presentation in school and a presence at the Lowell Community Expo in March . A group is also working right in our school. They are going to Mr. Boeve's classroom to learn and play games with the special needs students. Another group that is working in the school system is hoping to add comfort for elementary students by making seat cushions for an entire classroom with the belief that when students are comfortable, academic productivity increases. These groups of teens have high aspirations and do not believe that the label put on the average teenager is how they should be defined. This Senior Capstone class serves as an example that no matter your age, you can always make a difference.

Headline: LHS Students Take the Lead