

# Everyone's counts!



George Bosco and Suzanne Tichy  
Teachers at Linderwold Elementary School 4  
Lindenwold, NJ

## Students at Lindenwold Elementary School No. 4 donate \$1,000 worth of change to Deborah!

In a heartwarming display of community spirit and generosity, the National Honor Society (NHS) students at Lindenwold Elementary School 4 (LES4) banded together to make a remarkable contribution to Deborah. During their "Everyone's Two Cents Counts" fund drive, these young scholars collected and turned loose change, and some bills, into an astonishing \$1,000 check to Deborah Hospital Foundation.

Led by teachers Suzanne Tichy and George Bosco, the students at LES4 demonstrated that age is no barrier to making a significant impact on the world around them. The children's selfless acts of donating to Deborah is a testament to their compassion and desire to create positive change. Mrs. Tichy remarked, "We started with a goal of raising \$500, but after the first day of collecting coins, two of the kids baskets broke from the weight of the coins. It was then the kids decided – let's go for a thousand dollars!"

The act of collecting coins might seem simple, but the impact of this endeavor goes far beyond its outward appearance. Six fourth grade NHS students spent weeks coordinating the collection effort, reaching out to fellow students, teachers, families and community members. "They asked their parents, grandparents, neighbors and even looked under couch cushions and car seats – just anywhere they could look they found coins – lots of them!" said Mr. Bosco.

The choice to donate to Deborah holds a special significance. From its inception in 1922, Deborah has benefited from this type of grassroots fundraising through the 1980's when over 80,000 Deborah volunteers routinely collected change outside of retail stores up and down the east coast. Through this donation, the students at LES4 learned valuable life lessons such as teamwork, while creating a sense of camaraderie with fellow schoolmates.

This initiative not only raised funds for Deborah, but also fostered a sense of unity and purpose among the entire school. "The class from each grade level who raised the most was awarded with popcorn and a movie," recalled Tichy.

Donating coins took on a symbolic meaning, but it also translated into concrete advantages for the kids. Every coin, regardless of its value, symbolized a fractional part of the community's joint exertion and compassion. The student's commitment to gathering coins demonstrated their awareness that even apparently minor contributions could turn into a substantial, positive impact on their own lives.

This heartening story serves as a reminder that generosity and compassion know no bounds. It's a testament to the power of young minds coming together with a shared purpose, showcasing that even the smallest actions can create a ripple effect of positive change. "It was just so beautiful to see how satisfying it was for the kids to know they were helping others. What a lesson for them at this age," said Mr. Bosco. "Their selfless act not only benefits Deborah, but also sets an example for others to follow." Their story serves as an inspiration to all, reminding us that it's within our reach to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others, and to create a better world for everyone.

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