



NHUMC
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Media Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE FIFTH ANNUAL BOX CITY VIGIL FOR YOUTH HOMELESSNESS
SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, MAY 8th STARTING AT 7PM AT THE
MINNESOTA STATE CAPITOL IN ST. PAUL.**

Bloomington, MN, March 20, 2009 - The Box City Vigil is an all night event put on for high school students organized by Bloomington high school students to raise awareness for youth homelessness. The 5th annual Box City Vigil will be held on May 8th starting at 7PM and concluding at 7AM on May 9th. Students stay overnight on the state capital front lawn to simulate a night without a home. The night will consist of speakers, musical guests, creating of hygiene kits to be donated to local youth homeless shelters, and other activities focusing on homeless youth. The Box City Vigil applied and was awarded a \$10,000 grant from Best Buy and Youth Venture to help sustain the project and contribute to the service project. Last year over 220 students stayed overnight in the rain. High schools from around the metro area and state had representation.

The event is a “stay out” to symbolize the growing number of youth that are homeless each night. Students from around the metro area are welcome to come and devote their night to recognizing the issue of youth homelessness in Minnesota. The event will take place Friday May 8th at 7PM lasting until Saturday, May 9th at 7AM. Registration begins at 7pm on the lawn of the State Capital, speakers will include a woman who was homeless as a teen and is getting back on her feet, Beth Holger from the MN Department of Human Services starting at 9:00PM and 10:30PM, and musical performances by Bloomington Jefferson High School student band The Romanovs at 8:30PM and a Bloomington Kennedy High School student band The 952 Crew at 10PM. For more information and registration forms please visit bcv09.blogspot.com.

For more information contact:
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