

**News Release**  
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## **Cadillac Students Help the Homeless and Others in Need**

CADILLAC, MI— The homeless and other people in need are benefiting from the hard work of some Cadillac Area Public Schools (CAPS) 8<sup>th</sup> graders. 54 students in the Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG) program offered in the Living Skills classes at Cadillac Junior High School sewed 79 tote bags and filled them with toiletries, socks, and snacks. The bags were donated to the New Hope Shelter, Oasis Family Resource Center, and the Michigan State Police Purses With a Purpose program. The project was funded by a \$500 Global Youth Services grant from the State of Michigan.

The CAPS 8<sup>th</sup> graders are the first students in the state to participate in a Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG) Middle School program which is being offered through a partnership with Northwest Michigan Works!. The primary mission of the JMG Middle School Program is to assist students in grades 6-8 develop leadership skills that will help them transition successfully from middle to high school and beyond. Career Specialists provide an array of counseling, skill development, advocacy, career association, and experiential learning opportunities that will improve student academic performance, school behavior, attendance, confidence, participation, and self-esteem.

JMG is also available as a career and college readiness program for students at Cadillac Public and Innovation High Schools and at the Wexford-Missaukee Career-Tech Center. In addition to the programs in Cadillac, Northwest Michigan Works! also coordinates JMG high school programs at CASMAN Academy in Manistee, Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District, the Traverse Bay Area ISD Career-Tech Center, and Out of School programs in Cadillac, Kalkaska, Manistee, and Traverse City.

(MORE)

Jobs for Michigan's Graduates equips young people with the skills to overcome barriers and succeed in education, employment, and in life. It is the leading program of Youth Solutions, Inc., a premier youth opportunity organization delivering employability and education services to young people across the state.

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Dan Boss at [dan.boss@networksnorthwest.org](mailto:dan.boss@networksnorthwest.org) and stating preferences for resolution, file format, and file size. Or phone (231) 929-5047. Check our online Media Room at: [networksnorthwest.org/media](http://networksnorthwest.org/media).

Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the-10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, Small Business Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business, and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our website, [networksnorthwest.org](http://networksnorthwest.org). Networks Northwest's member counties are Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.