

Written by  ${\color{red} {\bf Raven~Clabough}}$  on December 5, 2016

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## **Goodness of America**

#### **Lunch for Two**

When Josette Duran of Albuquerque, New Mexico, learned from her son that another student in his school brought nothing but a fruit cup to school every day for lunch, she began packing two lunches so that her son could feed his friend.

According to Duran's son, Dylan, the boy's mother lost her job and was unable to buy enough food for the family. The best she could do was provide her son a fruit cup to serve as his lunch.

But the boy did not go without a wholesome lunch for long, CBS News reported. Duran began to pack two drinks, two sandwiches, two snacks, and two pieces of fruit so that her son could give one of each to his friend. She also included a note in which she wished both her son and his friend a good day at school. This went on for two months.

When the little boy's mother learned of Duran's actions, she contacted the principal's office and requested a meeting with Duran in October so that she could thank her in person. She recently got a new job and offered to repay Duran for all the lunches, but Duran refused.

Duran believes her actions were nothing out of the ordinary and hopes that it inspires parents to talk to their kids about school because that is how she learned about Dylan's friend's issue.

"To us, we were just doing something normal," Duran said. "We never questioned it. If anything, we have to go back to the home. I know we are busy parents but ask, 'Are you doing OK in school? Is someone else [you know] not doing OK in school?' Keep your eyes and ears open. Say something. Don't be scared to say something and don't be scared to be nice."

# **Make-A-Wish for Others**

An Idaho teen with rare ovarian cancer used her "Make-A-Wish" in the most selfless way she could: She hosted a food drive.

According to the Huffington Post, Emma Allred's event took place in early October in Twin Falls, Idaho, and attracted hundreds of people and brought in over 13,000 pounds of food.

Allred's mother, Nina, told KMVT that she was impressed by her daughter's generosity. "Of all the things, despite her siblings trying to get her to do other things, she chose to help the homeless," she said.

Nina tried to convince Emma to choose a trip to Disney World because their last trip there as a family was tarnished by the news of Emma's cancer. Nina explained that if they went back this time, "She would have a much better time," since Emma is now in remission.

But Emma had other plans, and for that, her mother could not be more proud. "Her first reaction was to think of others," Nina said, "and that's very humbling."

Emma told InsideEdition.com that she was initially unsure of how she wanted to use her wish. "I didn't know at first, so I prayed to God and he told me to feed the homeless," she said.

She envisioned an event that included a large picnic with food, games, and fun, where people could come to donate food for those in need. That is exactly what she got on October 1.





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Make-A-Wish provided face-painting artists and snacks such as popcorn and cotton candy, as well as individual gift bags containing valuable items such as toothbrushes and blankets, to be handed out to the homeless. Hundreds of attendees arrived with food donations.

Additionally, when the community learned of Allred's plans, many pitched in to help, including the local fire department, a grocery chain, and local food groups, all of whom donated trucks full of food, InsideEdition.com reported.

Allred was shocked by all the support she received.

Julie Thomas, the Eastern Idaho regional manager for the state's Make-A-Wish Foundation, told the Huffington Post, "She is extremely shy and humble; she kept wondering why everyone wanted their photo taken with her."

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