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BROPHY FRESHMEN VOLUNTEER AT ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Balancing lessons, homework and activities with plans for the weekend and girls doesn't leave a lot of time for 14-year-old boys to spend thinking about the homeless. But that's most boys. Eight freshmen from Brophy College Preparatory spent the day performing service projects at St. Vincent de Paul Sept. 19. The students prepared the Family Evening Meal, sorted donated household items and gave clothes and hygiene kits to the homeless. Their service hours also gave them the opportunity to reflect on the hardships of the homeless and the working poor – situations most of them have never faced firsthand.

“Looking in the eyes of the homeless and seeing their pain, it moves you,” said 14-year-old Kyle Chase. “These people need help. We can't let them sit out there on the streets because society can't give them what they need.”

The start of the school year signaled the return of weekly visits from Brophy's freshmen. By spring, every freshman will have spent 10 hours on projects at St. Vincent de Paul.