

WATERTOWN URBAN MISSION

247 Factory Street, Watertown, NY—(315) 782-8440
www.watertownurbanmission.com

For Immediate Release
Contact Drew Mangione

***From Lemons, Lemonade and So Much More:* Neighborhood Children Give Lemonade Stand Proceeds & Their Time to the Watertown Urban Mission Food Pantry**

Food Pantry receives \$50.50 and an hour of work through lessons about business, giving

WATERTOWN (July 7, 2011)—When eight-year-old Braden McLallen wanted to start a lemonade stand three years ago, his goal was not to raise money for some toy, it was to give back.

And this year, he and his friends chose to give back to the Watertown Urban Mission, with a goal of \$50 because that's what they estimated for the cost of a week's groceries.

"He always wanted to raise the money to give back to charity," said Tiffany McLallen, his mother. "It started out with a \$10 loan from the bank of mom and has grown."

Their stand raised \$50.50 this summer for the Mission, and when he came by this morning with his brother and one of about 10 neighborhood kids who helped out, the three of them stuck around to help out, stocking baby food jars and applesauce, before helping to unload a produce and frozen meat delivery from the Central New York Food Bank. They were also thrilled to have television reporters from Channel 7 and YNN there to interview them.

"This job is awesome," said Gabe LaJoie, 7, as he wrote the expiration date on the top of a baby food jar. Later he added, "It was really fun when we started. It's still fun."

Braden said, "I just like to help people. I've been doing this for three years now."

Patrick-John Fadel, 6, said everything they've done is because there are people who need help, and added, "I like doing the lemonade stand because we get more money for the food pantry and it helps people buy stuff."

Ms. McLallen said the boys even washed a car to get \$10 and the community has been very generous as she has helped the boys and their friends learn about giving and business.

"I just hope to nurture what I believe is a child's innate need and want to give back. It's nice and refreshing to see them do that," she said. "They're the ones who are going to be running these programs in the future."

Executive Director Erika F. Flint said the boys' enthusiasm and spirit of giving is a great asset to the community and the Watertown Urban Mission is thankful for their generosity and the generosity of all who give to the Mission.

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