A Place to Sleep

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You’re never too young to make a difference. That’s what a WKU student thought when a popular movie inspired her to help others when she was in elementary school.

Amy Bingham has the story in this week’s View from the Hill.

Jessica Collins is a sophomore at WKU. She’s in a sorority. She has plans to pursue a nursing degree. But she already has nine years of experience running a non profit. All because of a Hollywood blockbuster she saw back in 2009.

“Today you guys are gonna help deliver a bed for a place to sleep.”

“The only thing I can think of as a fifth grader is a place to sleep so it just stuck.”

WKU Sophomore Jessica Collins is talking about the non-profit she founded shortly after seeing the movie The Blind Side.

(((Never had one before. What a room to yourself? A bed)))

“I just could not imagine not having a bed when Michael Oher received his very first bed.”

That Christmas instead of adopting an angel she asked her school to help her find someone who needed a bed. The child they found lived in her own neighborhood.

“That was shocking because I thought it was going to be so hard to find somebody who didn’t have a bed.”

“Its for a boy.”

The need kept growing and the ministry was quickly adopted by Jessica’s church, First Presbyterian. Jessica’s grandmother jumped in as logistics coordinator.

“Some days its pretty challenging especially when you don’t have what you need and don’t have money to go buy it. That’s where prayer and God comes in a lot of times because He makes it work.”

“We need stuff for a crib.”

With the help of youth groups, vacation bible schools and other volunteers, more

than 15 hundred beds have been delivered in and around Jessica’s hometown of Shelbyville since 2009.

“It’s good for young people to say wow this really did help someone.”

“We get to hear back from the schools that their attendance is improved, behavior is improved, so it is making a difference for those children.”

While Jessica is pursuing her degree at WKU, she has no plans of leaving the non profit behind.

“Such a gift of Jessica, I’m so proud of her . She makes us all have faith in young people.”

There are plenty of ways you can contribute to “A Place to Sleep”. To find out more log onto A Place to Sleep ministry dot org.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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