

December 27, 2018

Br. Thomas Zoppo, FSC
Principal/Head of School
Bishop Fenwick High School
99 Margin Street
Peabody, MA 01960-1894

A bed FOR EVERY CHILD

Giving a child a place to dream.

Dear Br. Thomas Zoppo:

On behalf of children who received a new bed from A Bed for Every Child, I want thank you and the students of Bishop Fenwick High School for making a generous gift of \$1,160 making it possible. By being part of A Bed for Every Child's 250 Beds for 250 Children by Christmas, this gift have helped to make a child's Christmas morning a bit brighter. It was the collective support of many that made it possible for 250 children to have a new bed of their own.

I want to share a story of one child who was a recipient of a new bed this Christmas thanks to your donation. Lilly is eleven years old and for as long as she can remember she has slept on an old mattress. Although Lilly would never complain about how uncomfortable the bed was, she knew her mom worked hard but simply could not afford to buy a new bed. She could only dream of a new bed but that all changed when her Mom learned about A Bed for Every Child through Lilly's school.

Her mom made the request through the school and learned that Lilly was on a waiting list to receive a new bed. Upon receiving the call from A Bed for Every Child to set up the delivery, Lilly's Mom decided not to tell her but to make it a surprise. When Lilly arrived home from school she went into her bedroom and saw the new bed. Her mom said that Lilly could not believe the bed was for her and she also reports that Lilly goes to bed now without being asked.

There are thousands of children throughout Massachusetts just like Lilly in need of a bed. A Bed for Every Child started five years ago, after a teacher approached an advocate from the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless when she was on site at the school offering homeless prevention resources for families and requested help in getting beds for some of her students. During further discussion, the teacher shared that many of the students within the school come to school tired simply because they do not have a bed of their own. Knowing that many of the students' parents could not afford to purchase one, she wanted help in getting new beds free of cost for the kids who needed them.

That one request launched *A Bed for Every Child* which set out with the goal of working with public school teachers, social workers and guidance counselors throughout Massachusetts to give students access to new twin beds free of cost. Although most of us can't imagine not having a bed, every month A Bed for Every Child receives 200 requests for children who can't imagine having one of their own.

Thank you for making it possible for another child to have a place to dream. From all of us at A Bed for Every Child we want to thank you for being part of the 250 Beds for 250 Children by Christmas.

Thank you for helping another child dream big!



ROBYN FROST