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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Yorba Students Create Club to Help Homeless**

ORANGE, Calif., February 4, 2011–Yorba Academy of the Arts Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grader, Brenda Rodriguez, wanted to start a student club on her campus, but not just any club. She approached Yorba Counselor, Mr. Eddie Espinosa, with a unique request to start a club to help the less fortunate in her community. What was once an idea has now become a student-led effort to support Lifehouse of Orange County to help feed the poor and homeless.

"I saw many people starting clubs and I wanted to do the same," said Miss Rodriguez. "I wanted to something different and be able to help others." Mr. Espinosa knew of Lifehouse and immediately brought the students and the organization together.

Miss Rodriguez calls the club, which is comprised of thirty-two students, "Helping Hands." Every Friday students come together under the direction of Yorba Reading and English teacher, Mrs. Elsie Espinosa, to help box up scores of bags of food and supplies for Lifehouse that will be delivered to the homeless who occupy the riverbed. The students are in charge of organizing, assembling, bagging, and quality control.

Mr. Espinosa stated, "This is so heartwarming because we have so many students here at Yorba who are in need and they want to help others. It shows that kids do care, and the beauty is that this was all students driven."

The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA