

## HS club's blanket drive to help warm the homeless

Students from St. Vincent High School are working to keep homeless children and adults warm this winter by sponsoring a drive to collect blankets to benefit Novato's Homeward Bound homeless services. Coordinated by the high school's Community Concerns Club, the blanket drive will be held through Nov. 17 at the school's campus in Petaluma. Donations are tax-deductible and can be dropped off any time between 7:45 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the St. Vincent High School front office, 849 Keokuk Street. Donations may be dropped off in Novato at North Coast Surety Insurance Services, 100 Professional Center Drive, Suite 110.

In addition to new and gently used blankets, donations of towels and sample-size shampoos, soaps and toothpaste are also welcome.

The club's blanket drive will support Homeward Bound's homeless shelter in Novato, The Next Key, which officially opened Saturday. This center includes 32 studio apartments for homeless and low-income families. Donations will also benefit Homeward Bound's New Beginnings Center, an 80-bed residential and job training facility serving single adults.

"These donations make a huge difference to the comfort, warmth and self-esteem of the homeless residents in Homeward Bound of Marin's programs," said Paul Fordham, Homeward Bound's development director. "We would like to thank the students of Saint Vincent's High School for their community awareness and compassion."

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### Blanket drive to benefit Homeward Bound

Homeward Bound of Marin, a

nonprofit based in Hamilton, will be the beneficiary of a blanket drive by the students of St. Vincent High School in Petaluma.

The school, which has about one-third of its student body from Novato, also will send blankets to the Committee on Shelterless in Petaluma. Small soaps, shampoos and toothpastes are being collected as well by the school's Community Concerns Club.

The blanket drive is open from 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Nov. 17 at 849 Keokuk St. in Petaluma.