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Updated: Mar 01, 2005 - 11:09:17 am CST

A disaster, a dream and determination

A Wright Elementary fourth-grade student came to school after the holidays with an idea to help the children whose lives were affected by the tsunami.

Taylor Cassidy had a plan that she shared with her teacher, Sue Mullins.

After many meetings, a school-wide project that would help the young children affected by the tsunami was created by Taylor with suggestions from her teacher.

She named her project Tsunami Cents. Scott Kubelka, principal at Wright, approved her final plans.

Taylor chose a co-chair, Jessica Delap, to help her.

The two girls went to each Wright classroom to explain



Taylor Cassidy (left) and Jessica Delap (right) present a check for tsunami relief efforts to Todd Mikesell from the DeKalb County Red Cross. Provided photo

this project. Their classmates even demonstrated to the Wright classes how a tsunami happens using a plastic tub, Monopoly houses and water.

Announcements, as well as a song that was sung by Taylor, were broadcast over the PA system to remind the Wright students and teachers about this project.

Flyers were sent home to inform parents.

Taylor and Jessica did this project for two weeks during the lunch periods at Wright Elementary.

If a student donated money, he received a small white ribbon to place on his lanyard.

Every day the girls collected money and distributed the white ribbons.

In the fourth-grade classroom, the children counted the money at the end of each week. Taylor had set a goal of \$300, which was met by the end of the first week.

Taylor's idea became reality as she and Jessica presented Todd Mikesell from the DeKalb County Red Cross a check for \$455 last week. Taylor's dream was met.