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## Teens see house as home for a memory

By Angie Valencia-Martinez, Staff Writer  
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SIMI VALLEY - Tyler Broberg was the boy with the infectious smile.

To honor his life, his friends at Royal High School want to bring smiles to the members of a local family by helping them purchase a new home.

Teaming up with Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County, his schoolmates plan to raise \$50,000 toward a new home for a low-income family.

"We all knew we wanted to do something to remember Tyler," said longtime friend Emilie Mateu. "We wanted to bring something positive to remember his ideals and what he stood for."

"Fifty years from now, we'll drive by that house and remember his influence. It's all about dreaming big to make a difference, because that's what he would have wanted."

Broberg, 16, died in August during a family reunion in Las Vegas in a tragic accident on a waterslide. To cope with their loss and turn the loss into something positive, the teenagers created the project called 1Life2Live.

Broberg was an honor student, athlete and lifeguard. Friends remember him as a jokester, role model, Eagle Scout and someone who wanted to make others happy.

"He was the type of person everybody thought was his best friend," said Alex Safford, a Royal High School junior. "He was really into helping others."

"He had such a contagious smile. Every time he smiled, it made me want to smile."

Karen Jensen, resource development director for Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County, said three single-parent

families have been selected for a development at the corner of Royal and Sequoia avenues in Simi Valley.

The homes are expected to be complete by December 2008.

"It's great to see the students really band together to make a difference," she said.

The homes are sponsored by three groups in the area, including 1Life2Live, which has pledged to raise the money by Broberg's one-year death anniversary.

His peers are also committed to participate in the construction of the homes starting next year.

So far, the organization has raised about \$6,000 and is asking the community to make support the group by purchasing "1L2L Gear," which includes wristbands, T-shirts, sweat shirts and car decals.

Pamela Moberly, one of the adults that is helping the teens through the process, said the project has stayed youth-driven.

"I'm impressed with these youth," Moberly said. "They're really amazing to me. We've got a strong core group."

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