

13 January 2011

Press Release

## **CRC SPORTS STUDENTS TAKE MONEY AND HOPE TO STREET CHILDREN IN MARRAKESH**

**Sports students from Cambridge Regional College are swapping the comforts of home for a week in Morocco working with abandoned street children in Marrakesh.**



Off to help street children in Morocco: CRC students and staff with £3,000, sports kit and toys

They are travelling out to the country on Friday armed with a bumper cheque for £3,000 raised by the College's students and staff, along with piles of footballs, sports equipment, paper and crayons to give to the children.

During their week-long trip, the 23 young sports leaders, aged between 16 and 19, will stay in a house assigned for volunteers while they are in the city, experiencing a side to Marrakesh not often seen by tourists.

The visit has been organised by CRC lecturer Rob Metcalfe, who last year took another party of student volunteers to the country – the first time the sports leaders had carried out voluntary work abroad.

“We were very moved by the plight of the street children and the orphanages in Marrakesh last year and wanted to do whatever we could to help,” said Rob, sector leader for Sports Studies at the College.

“Our trainee sports leaders are used to do volunteering at home, but this was a totally different experience, and extremely worthwhile. We wanted to go back with this year's students and take some money with us to give to the orphanage, so we organised a charity night at a club in Cambridge and raised a fantastic £3,000.”

The money will be used to provide vital shelter and education for the children, many of whom are picked up from the streets where their families have left them to beg.

“It's heart-rending to see the dreadful lives some of these children have been leading but the work done by the orphanages is amazing and they deserve all the help they can get,” said Rob.

Kate Da Costa, Assistant Academy Manager of Sports, Leisure and Science, will also accompany the students on the visit, along with sports lecturer Chris McKenna.

**- ends -**

**MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email [loshea@camre.ac.uk](mailto:loshea@camre.ac.uk)

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of vocational full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has more than 4,000 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the Eastern Region.