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Eighth graders at a local middle school went above and beyond to help people in need, thousands of miles away.



***Monroe Clark Middle School is a year-round Title One school with 1,600 students, who are primarily Hispanic, Somali, Cambodian, Vietnamese and African-American.***

Living with all the conveniences of the modern world, 8th graders at Monroe Clark middle school in San Diego, had no idea so many in the world were suffering.

"They were tortured so badly, I couldn't believe it. I didn't even want to read the book anymore. Same with the movie "Schindler's List." I couldn't keep watching it. It was horrible," said student, Jorge Robles. He is talking about the many holocaust survivors living in Eastern Europe.

During their last weeks of school, the students learned that years after their terrible torture, survivors are still living in dire situations.

“I feel that it’s not right.” said Robles. So, the students decided to participate in a program called the “Survivor Mitzvah” project.

“We found out that we could raise money to send to them so they could get money for food shelter and medicine, and we decided that we wanted to get more personal with the survivors that we were going to help, and so, we began writing letters to, I think, 7 holocaust survivors,” said student Yvonne Campos.

Through their hard work, the students were also able to raise two thousand dollars to send to holocaust survivors.

Along with the money, they sent letters and were happy to receive letters in return.

“I just want to help them more. As much as I can, right now, while they’re still alive,” said Robles.

The students said their hope is to bring some light to many who have lived most of their lives in darkness.

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