

PRESS RELEASE

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4675 MISSOURI FLAT ROAD
PLACERVILLE CA 95667

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UMHS Key Club President Sets Lofty Goal

Union Mine High School senior Lexie Cardoza is starting her school year with some lofty goals. Through her work with the school's Key Club, a community service driven club of which she is President, Lexie hopes to raise \$10,000 to build a school in Kenya.

"I wanted to do more than we did last year and I wanted to set a goal for us," she said.

In connection with Free the Children, an international charity and educational partner, Lexie and her Key Club officers chose to focus their fundraising efforts on Kenya. Key Club plans to hold fundraisers throughout the year to raise both funds and awareness in regards to the lack of education in Kenya. Their plan is for an impactful end result – a school in Kenya.

"I wanted to turn the club around and make it something big that people actually want to be a part of, and I think I've done that," she said.

Lexie's presidential efforts since last school year have clearly paid off. Club membership has reached roughly 75 this year in comparison with membership in the mid-20s during her freshman and sophomore years.

Coupled with this goal of building a school in Kenya, Lexie has also taken the lead on several blood drives at Union Mine and says that, although it can be stressful, she absolutely loves it.

"Lexie has done an amazing job of organizing blood drives and the Kenya school project," Paul Neville, Union Mine High School Principal, said. "Her leadership and willingness to help those in need is an inspiration to all. Lexie is a community person and is truly making a difference not only at Union Mine but throughout the world. Her compassion, drive and leadership truly exemplify what it means to be a Union Mine Diamondback."

Lexie's plans after graduation include attending a 4-year university in southern California with an excellent broadcast journalism program. Her top choice at this time is USC.

Stay tuned for more information about upcoming fundraising events and how you can help Lexie and the Union Mine High School Key Club reach their goal of \$10,000 raised.

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