



# MINNESOTA VIKINGS

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **VIKINGS DONATE TRAINING CAMP BIKES TO MANKATO YOUTH**

The Minnesota Vikings are donating bikes to 20 youth in the Mankato community. The youth selected are all part of the United Way's Connecting Kids Initiative, which donates bikes to children who otherwise wouldn't have one.

The United Way also provides scholarships to these children for after-school and summer programs, as they have no means to pay for the activities. Some of those benefiting are older children, who need a bike to get to school or work, as they do not have transportation.

"Despite the fact that so many families, especially these low income families, are feeling the pinch of these tough times, it is wonderful to see that we are still able to bring some smiles to kids' faces," said **Laura Bowman, President of the Greater Mankato Area United Way.**

The bikes were made available as part of a fundraiser held at **Verizon Wireless Vikings Training Camp**. Autographed bikes, which were used by the players during camp, were auctioned off as a fundraiser for the Vikings Children's Fund. For every bike purchased, one bike was allocated to be donated back to the Mankato community.

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