

UPDATE: Boys and Girls Club fundraising events exceeds \$475,000 goal

Posted: Jul 15, 2016 6:06 PM CDT Updated: Jul 16, 2016 4:41 PM CDT



UPDATE: The man who leads the Boys and Girls Club of Madison says his organization has met its goal to purchase five new vans.

CEO Michael Johnson tells Channel 27 News they were able to raise \$477,764 within the past three days for the effort.

Since Thursday, Johnson had been camped out on a parking lot to bring attention to the need for the replacements.

At a separate fundraiser this morning in Fitchburg, (a bike event, featuring riders trekking 50, 25 or 8 miles for sponsorships,) Johnson tells Channel 27 News today's event put them over the finish line.

But he adds the benefits to young people in the Madison area don't stop with the vehicles' purchase.

"We have over a hundred tutors that work in classrooms with kids. We provided 50-thousand meals last year for young people to have a happy and nutritious meal after school. This money is suppose to be for things like that. So every year we have an obligation to not meet our goals, we want to exceed it and make sure the kids got the support that they need."

We'll have more details for you tonight on WKOW news at 6:00 and 10 p.m.

=====

MADISON (WKOW) -- More than 1,000 people are preparing for Saturday's Bike for Boys and Girls Club.

The CEO of Dane County Boys and Girls Club has been camping out for more than 40 hours to raise money for transportation costs. CEO Michael Johnson is trying to raise \$475,000 to purchase five new vans for the Boys and Girls Club.

Tomorrow's event will be held at McKee Farms Park in Fitchburg. It will include an 8 mile bike ride for families, a 25 mile ride, and a 50 mile ride. Food and beverages will be provided for all attendees.

Currently, Johnson is camped out in the parking lot of Metcalfe's Market near Hilldale Mall. Since he arrived on Wednesday, more than 400 people have come to support Johnson and the Boys and Girls Club of Dane

County. Johnson raised \$50,000 in less than 24 hours.

"We wanted people to just come out and celebrate and to have fun while raising funds for local kids in this community," said Johnson. "I'm committed to staying out here to ensure that the young people who come to the boys and girls club get reliable transportation."

Johnson told 27 News that he is only \$20,000 away from his goal.

If you would like to help the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County, visit the event's website: www.bike4bgc.com