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## Locals take frigid plunge for charity

By Sean Trembath, The StarPhoenix February 28, 2015

### **A group of locals took a dip in a frigid pool to raise money and awareness for human trafficking**

A group of locals engaged in frigid philanthropy at the Farmer's Market Saturday.

The third annual Polar Dip for Human Trafficking saw 13 brave souls take a dip in a pool cold enough that they had to chip the ice off first.

"It was pretty cold. I guessed right," Daniel Hargraves joked shortly after drying off.

"When I came out, my brain was just on getting my towel. I left my shoes there, I left everything. The worst part was walking back into the building."

Hargraves first learned about how serious human trafficking is from a speaker at a church retreat three or four years ago.

"He just told us the facts, and God really tore my heart apart over the issue. I've just been called to raise awareness and do something about it," Hargraves said.

The event raised more than \$3,000 for Egadz, a local organization that works with at-risk youth, and the International Justice Mission, a faith-based organization that rescues victims of trafficking.

It was organized by Saskatoon Acts, a local group devoted to the human trafficking cause.

"It's just a loose group of local people who are passionate about the issues of trafficking and exploitation," Ty McKenzie, a local pastor and MC of Saturday's event, said.

"We said, we don't know very much, but we want to learn more about what's happening in our community and around the world."

The main idea behind the icy plunge was that such a stunt would gather attention to the issue. The discomfort involved pales in comparison to that felt by those they hope to help.

"The people who suffer trafficking and exploitation undergo such trauma that something this dramatic is really, pardon the pun, a drop in the bucket," he said.

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