



Film follows kids on a Super Bowl mission

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Even if you don't care about the Super Bowl, there is much to love about the Slant 45 project.

The idea was to get 20,000 North Texas youngsters involved in community service.

Part of the project, a film documenting the effort, will even give football haters something to love about this game.

The film tracks six groups of kids as they look for — and find — something good they can do for others.

"We have a lemonade stand trying to raise money and cans for the food bank," said one youngster featured in the film. "It's doing a real good job."

The project highlights a group of teens with Down syndrome who are planning a talent show to bring cheer to homeless families in Dallas.

It's a film that tugs at the heart strings as it shows how even children with very little — like some homeless kids in Fort Worth — coming together to help stray animals.

Among the stars is Veronica Tovar of Fort Worth. She was tired of seeing graffiti around her school.

"I can see we have a lot of gangs in our community," she said. So the fourth grader organized her group to do a cleanup.

Emotions run deep when — before they can finish — their school gets invaded by taggers.

"It's terrible for the school, because its *our* school," Veronica said.

But this documentary is a tribute to the strength of Texas children.

It follows one group of Jewish boys who turn the cancer death of one of their friends into a project to collect Legos, his favorite toy, for Children's Medical Center Dallas.

As much as anything, the film exposes the common threads that bind this community together. Our children — no matter the race, the income, or the religion — are packed with the power to do good things.

And if you don't believe it, just ask Veronica.

"We learned that little kids can make a big difference, because we *are* little kids making a big, big difference," she said.

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