

## The Sandwich Man

This is the story of Allan Law, the Sandwich Man of Minneapolis. This former middle school teacher first discovered the homelessness problem in the inner-city schools where he taught, and it became a large concern for him. He wondered what he could do to help the homeless in his area, who often went days without food during the winter. So, he packed a row of freezers into his apartment, and he began making sandwiches. It was the beginning of great things.

Law drives around Minneapolis each evening, delivering sandwiches and other necessities to those living on the city's streets. He sleeps roughly two hours a night, and always in the back of his van. "I haven't slept in a bed in 13 years," Law states. "This is what I have to do, for the rest of my life" (Karmatube, n.d.).

Now heading a fully staffed and growing volunteer organization, Law receives donations from schools, churches, businesses, and the public. Through his organization, Law routinely delivers literally hundreds of thousands of sandwiches, blankets, socks, and mittens to the homeless in his city every year.

### More Resources

Use the following resources to conduct your research.

- **"MRD Founder Mr. Allan Law" (Minneapolis Recreation Development, n.d.):** [www.363days.org/allanlaw.html](http://www.363days.org/allanlaw.html)
- **"700,000 Sandwiches Later, This Man Is Still Helping the Homeless" (Huppert, 2015):** [www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/04/20/inspiration-nation-sandwich-man/26096691](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/04/20/inspiration-nation-sandwich-man/26096691)
- **The Sandwich Project:** [www.thesandwichprojectmn.org](http://www.thesandwichprojectmn.org)

### Discussion Questions

Use the following questions to facilitate your classroom discussion.

- *How does Law and the work he's doing set an example for others?*
- *Why do you think so many people have stepped forward to help Law in his cause?*
- *What are some other ways we can help those less fortunate than us?*
- *How would you go about beginning a delivery organization of your own in your city?*
- *Do you believe that what Law is doing is truly making a difference? Why or why not?*

### Global Digital Citizen Assessment Framework

Use this four-phase assessment framework to establish the connection between personal responsibility and caring and compassion.

1. **Phase 1 (awareness, connection, remembering):** Sometimes shows care and consideration to the people with whom he or she interacts; sometimes offers support and shows gratitude and appreciation
2. **Phase 2 (understanding, applying):** Shows some care and consideration to others' needs; is sometimes supportive and will offer a critique that is appropriate and suitable; often shows gratitude and appreciation

3. **Phase 3 (analyzing, evaluating):** Shows caring and consideration for others' needs and the environment; is generally considerate in his or her actions and understands their impact; is generally suitably supportive and sometimes proactive; offers a critique that is generally appropriate and suitable; shows gratitude and appreciation
4. **Phase 4 (evaluating, creating):** Shows caring and is empathetic to others' needs and the environment; is considerate and deliberate in his or her actions, weighing their impact before enacting them; is always supportive, proactive, and considerate; offers a considerate critique that is appropriate and suitable; always shows genuine gratitude and appreciation

## Discussion and Assessment Debrief

After conversation, students develop their own opinions about the assessment.

- *How did you evaluate this line from the assessment framework and why?*
- *How does the line from the assessment framework fit into the conversation?*
- *What does it mean for us? For the community? For the world?*

## References

Huppert, B. (2015, April 20). 700,000 sandwiches later, this man is still helping the homeless. *USA Today*. Accessed at [www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/04/20/inspiration-nation-sandwich-man/26096691](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/04/20/inspiration-nation-sandwich-man/26096691) on January 16, 2017.

Karmatube. (n.d.). *The sandwich man* [Video file]. Accessed at [www.karmatube.org/videos.php?id=5975](http://www.karmatube.org/videos.php?id=5975) on January 16, 2017.

Minneapolis Recreation Development. (n.d.). *MRD founder Mr. Allan Law*. Accessed at [www.363days.org/allanlaw.html](http://www.363days.org/allanlaw.html) on January 16, 2017.