Canadore focuses on youth homelessness

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Canadore College students are hoping to shine the light on local youth homelessness with a Push For Change Sleep Out Challenge, Thursday.

The national initiative is aimed at raising awareness of youth homelessness.

It is estimated that across the country, 6,000 young Canadians face the dangers and challenges of being homeless every night.

"This initiative is valuable in bringing awareness to the issues of food security and homelessness within our community," said Dennis Chippa, executive director of The Gathering Place of North Bay.

"It's important to tell the community that these issues exist, that they are not just 'big city problems'. The best part is by having young people involved, it drives the message home to them so they can be prepared to work on these issues as a lifelong mission."

The college is working with the North East Region OPP and The Gathering Place. The evening will include a pasta dinner, addresses by Joe Roberts from Push for Change, OPP Superintendent Ken Leppert and Chippa.

The event will run from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Canadore College Residence (C19), 19 College Drive.

The College has been collecting cash donations, non-perishable food items and warm clothing this month in support of the event.

Donations can be made by contacting Katie Fabbro at kathleen.fabbro@canadorecollege.ca