

## Awesome Kids

### "Turning Grease into Fuel": The New TGIF!

Starting from the fifth grade, Cassandra Lin was ready to break the stereotype of a "normal" little kid: she wanted to change the world. So as she started a group with environmentalist friends, learned about the potential of "biodiesel," and noticed a local charity, she created TGIF, an organization that turns unused household grease into biodiesel to give back to the community for emergency use AND help the environment. They have expanded from a small community to local restaurants to lobbying the town council to passing a Rhode Island bill to recycle household grease. Now they are looking to go even farther, after having donated \$56,000 of biodiesel as fuel to households during emergencies AND prevented one and a half million pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the air. Who knew 10 year-olds with a TGIF-mindset could make such a huge impact on our world?

Link to an inspiring essay Cassandra wrote:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/cassandra-lin/when-kids-worry-they-act\\_b\\_1472092.html?ref=en-change](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/cassandra-lin/when-kids-worry-they-act_b_1472092.html?ref=en-change)

### Reply to Jessica Dolmascalo's post about Ryan Hreljak:

I remember reading about Ryan a while ago, but I hadn't thought much of it. What difference was what he did from all the other charity organizations out there? Revisiting the article today, I realized that what he did was actually truly unique: he did it out of goodwill, something that adults and older children might never do; in other words, others might do it for show and good reputation, but he did it simply out of heart: a six year-old would understand. And to have helped three-quarters of a million people! It's just an amazing story.