

Leadership Catoosa, founded in 1987, is a community-based program for current and emerging leaders, designed to educate them about Catoosa County. The program enhances leadership skills and shows participants how to make a difference in business and the community through interactive, full-day sessions. Participants study the community, visit legislators, build teamwork and leadership skills, and network with local leaders.

Every year, the Leadership Catoosa Class selects a service project to make a meaningful impact in Catoosa County. This year, after discussing various needs across our community, the 2024-2025 Leadership Catoosa Class chose to focus on a critical issue: providing dental care for homeless, unaccompanied high school seniors.

These students face unique challenges, often without a stable place to call home. They may live in cars, hotels, or with friends or extended family, and they lack the support of a parent or guardian. This project aims to address their essential dental needs, helping them feel healthier and more confident as they transition into adulthood.

## Help a student SNALLE

Did you know that there are 30-35 homeless, unaccompanied senior students in Catoosa County schools? These students face countless challenges, but thanks to the Catoosa Children's Fund, they receive a helping hand as they prepare for life after high school. Whether it's assisting them with college applications, helping them find interview clothes for job searches, or ensuring they have all the necessary ID documents, the Catoosa Children's Fund is there every step of the way.

But they don't stop there! The Fund also provides these students with important health services, like eye exams and dental check-ups. Over the years, it's become clear that many of these students need more extensive dental work—something that can be out of reach for them without support. That's where we come in!

The 24-25 Leadership Catoosa group has set an ambitious goal to **raise \$10,000-\$15,000** to help cover these essential dental expenses for our local students. We're asking for your

help! Donations can be made by dropping off checks or cash at the Catoosa County Chamber office, or through Venmo.

Every contribution, big or small, will make a huge difference in these students' futures.

Together, we can give these young people the tools they need to succeed —and help a student smile!



