



FarmHouse Fraternity, Inc.

Building Men since 1905

NDSU and SDSU Show Promise of Service to their Fellowmen

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KANSAS CITY, MO. – Brothers from the North Dakota State and South Dakota State University chapters joined forces recently to help retain the Red River in Fargo before it reached its crest at over 40 feet.

On March 25, nine members of the SDSU chapter traveled to Fargo and joined the 30+ man chapter at NDSU to help citizens of Fargo fill sandbags, build dikes and provide relief assistance to those in need.

Kyle Chirpich, a senior in agricultural engineering at SDSU said, "When we got to the NDSU chapter house, nobody was there and the floors were muddy because everyone was out sandbagging. Our NDSU brothers had literally formed their own sandbagging crews and had travelled all over Fargo-Moorhead for a week, responding to requests for help as they come across them. Some brothers even lead school buses of high school students to assist in the efforts."

"We could tell they were really dragging," Alan Haarstad, SDSU vice president of finance said. "Members of NDSU FarmHouse had been working 10-hour days, going home, popping Advil and starting over again the next morning. They all had their wrists taped up like football linemen to fight off the strain of heaving the 40 pound bags all day. One brother unloaded an entire semi trailer full of bags and stacked them all by himself - an absolutely exhausting task."

To assist with the fatigue of the non-stop effort, the men of South Dakota State treated their brothers to dinner, before heading back to work on the dikes together. Although the river was expected to crest at 40-feet, efforts continued to build dikes above this in order to safe guard neighborhoods from additional flooding.

"It felt really good to help," Haarsatd remarked. "Coming up to help was our way of showing our brothers our care and support."

Chirpich added, "We know the FarmHouse contribution to the flood fighting effort was just one small piece of the machine, but our NDSU brothers truly kept 'their promise of service to their fellowmen' and we are proud of them for that."

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