

Sporting a helping hand

Mike Sanoba doesn't think money should hinder children from playing sports.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Coach Mike Sanoba, left, and Rene Vargass, youth sports program coordinator, work with young people at the Norfolk Family YMCA.

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So for the second consecutive year, the Norfolk Family YMCA coach has donated a \$500 Allstate "Agency Hands in the Community" grant to the downtown-area facility.

The grant is used to help sponsor kids who can't afford to join the center's programs.

An Allstate agent in Ghent, Sanoba has coached Y basketball for two years and is currently coaching a pre-kindergarten soccer team.

"I don't know a whole lot about soccer, but at that age you don't need to teach them

a lot except kick a ball," he said.

Just being there helps, too.

He goes to the YMCA almost every day to shoot hoops with friends and he volunteers with the youngsters one day a week and on weekends for games.

Win or lose, it doesn't really matter. Sanoba cares most that the kids have a good time.

"I just enjoy helping the kids out and teaching them how to play sports and how to have good sportsmanship," Sanoba said.

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