

ABOUT CONNECTICUT FOOD BANK

The mission of Connecticut Food Bank is to alleviate hunger. We do this by supplying food and other resources to eligible programs throughout our service area and promoting public awareness about the problem of hunger.

Connecticut Food Bank distributes food to approximately 600 soup kitchens, shelters, food pantries, and children's and seniors' programs in six of Connecticut's eight counties: Fairfield, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London and Windham.

Last year, Connecticut Food Bank distributed more than 16 million pounds of food. Since 1982, Connecticut Food Bank has distributed more than 200 million pounds of food to people in need in Connecticut.

For more information, please contact:

Carly Yearsley, Child Nutrition Coordinator
(203) 469-5000, ext. 324
cyearsley@ctfoodbank.org

To donate, please visit www.ctfoodbank.org or contact the development office at (203) 469-5000, ext. 303 cfb@ctfoodbank.org



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KIDS' BACKPACK PROGRAM



WHY WE NEED A KIDS' BACKPACK PROGRAM

- Nearly 49 million people in the United States, including **16 million children, are food insecure.**
- In Connecticut nearly one child in five under age 18 is hungry or food insecure.
- Almost **15% of Connecticut households are struggling** to keep food on the table .
- 75% of households that receive emergency food assistance in the state live below the poverty line.
- **Only 53% of schools in Connecticut participate in the School Breakfast Program,** the lowest percentage of all fifty states in the nation.



A KID-FRIENDLY SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN IN NEED



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HOW THE KIDS' BACKPACK PROGRAM WORKS

Connecticut Food Bank's Kids' Backpack Program brings a simple solution to a basic need that is not adequately met for many children—food.

Connecticut Food Bank partners with local public school systems, teachers and staff to identify students who are at risk of hunger when they do not have access to school meals. These students are provided with kid-friendly food distributed discreetly at school at the end of each week, using their own backpack or one given to them.

Through the Kids' Backpack Program, we hope that weekends without adequate nourishment are no longer a problem and cause of stress for these children.

WHAT GOES IN BACKPACKS

- Sample non-perishable items that are packed for kids may include:
- Shelf-Stable Milk
 - Chicken & Rice Meal
 - Dried Fruit
 - Tuna
 - Whole-Grain Cereal
 - Sunbutter
 - Nutrigrain Bars
 - Fruit Cups
 - Beef Stew
 - 100% Juice Boxes

Note: Not all these items will go in each backpack every week. Items will vary depending on season and availability, and will be rotated so that children don't receive the same food items every week.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- DONATE MONEY.** We need funds to purchase bulk quantities of kid-friendly food (shelf-stable and nutritious). Additional costs include staff time, equipment and transportation expenses.
- DONATE FOOD.** We invite the food industry to donate food products that are appropriate for the Kids' Backpack Program and that reduce costs to Connecticut Food Bank if donated in sufficient quantities.
- DONATE TIME.** Volunteers are needed each week during the school year to assemble bags of food and load them into boxes for delivery to participating schools. Office assistance in Connecticut Food Bank's Programs Department is also needed.

HELP FEED HUNGRY CHILDREN IN CONNECTICUT

I want to be part of the solution to the problem of childhood hunger in Connecticut.

Enclosed is my gift of:
 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other \$ _____

To make a secure online donation, visit www.ctfoodbank.org

- I do not want a thank-you for my gift.
- I do not want my name listed in the annual report or other publications.

Please make your check payable to Connecticut Food Bank and mail to:
 Ms. Nancy L. Carrington
 President & Chief Executive Officer
 Connecticut Food Bank, Inc.
 P.O. Box 8686
 New Haven, CT 06531-0686

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