

April - June 2022



**Shared Harvest**

**FOODBANK**

**OUR MISSION**

To find, rescue and distribute food to people living in poverty through an efficient network, uniting the public and private sectors; to raise awareness of the impact of poverty.

[sharedharvest.org](http://sharedharvest.org)



## A Letter From Our Director...

One of my favorite childhood memories is swimming at Dempsey pool in Price Hill with my older brother, Phil. The hot summer sun bleached our hair white and bronzed our skin as we spent hours wasting the day away, playing outside, and swimming. Our parents worked while we occupied our time exploring the neighborhood, skateboarding under the viaducts, and wandering through cemeteries. We sought relief from the heat in the shadows of the tall statues and monuments.

But I remember always feeling hungry. Rarely, did we have consistent access to food, especially during the summer. One year, an enormous white semi-truck parked near the pool. Kids excitedly lined up at the truck where they received a paper bag and proceeded to sit at picnic tables and beneath the shade trees. They pulled out small frozen cups of orange juice and peanut butter sandwiches. Observing what was happening, my brother and I quickly looked at each other and darted toward the truck. We hesitantly accepted the bags and wondered if we were doing something wrong by taking them. Were we supposed to pay for this food? We ran off and excitedly ate our sandwiches on the grassy hill. Each day we returned to the pool and waited anxiously for the truck to arrive. Every day after, that whole summer we were fed by the mysterious white truck.

I now know that my brother and I participated in the USDA Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) that year. "SFSP is a federally funded, state-administered program...that serves free healthy meals to children and teens in low-income areas during the summer months when school is not in session". (USDA) Having personally benefitted from this program and remembering how much it meant to me as a child, it saddens me to think that programs like this are often subject to federal budget cuts.

People living in poverty are often accused of "taking advantage" of the system. Most people who receive assistance through supplemental food programs are children and seniors. Is it fair to accuse a child or a senior of taking advantage by accepting food assistance? Of course not! We as a society must stop demonizing people living in poverty. There is so much research that supports the necessity and value of these programs.

Take a moment and read some articles on the USDA website: [www.fns.usda.gov](http://www.fns.usda.gov) to learn more about these programs and why they are so important. Your voice matters. Use your influence to advocate for people in need. The more we understand, the better we will be able to educate others and lessen the socio-economic gap that divides us.

In Partnership,

*Terry L. Perdue*  
TERRY PERDUE

## Board of Directors

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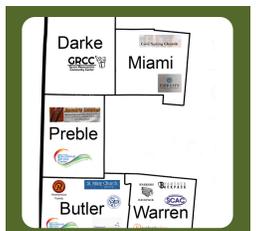
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# Summer Feeding Program

Summer is often associated with a time when many children are enjoying their favorite summer activities like swimming, riding bikes, and enjoying delicious cookouts with family and friends.

But for thousands of local kids who depend on the free school meal program are left without access to nutritious breakfast and lunch each day once the school year ends. For these children and their families, it is not a time of happy memories and carefree time but instead a time of anxiety, worry, and hunger.



We often see an increase of families visiting our network of pantries during Summer vacation. In Ohio, 1 in 7 children face hunger. Programs like the Ohio Summer Food Service Program through the Ohio Department of Education helps alleviate some of these worries.

In Butler County one of our network partners provides kids in Middletown with access to a nutritious foods that allow them to play, learn and grow.

## A Glimpse at Summer Feeding in Middletown Ohio

6 LOCATIONS FOR LUNCH  
2 LOCATIONS FOR BREAKFAST

10 WEEKS LONG MONDAY-FRIDAY  
OVER 50,000 MEALS SERVED

850 KIDS SERVED LUNCH EACH DAY  
200 KIDS SERVED BREAKFAST EACH DAY



**DONATE TO THE BACKPACK PROGRAM TODAY**

**\$6 SPONSORS ONE CHILD FOR ONE WEEKEND**

**\$24 SPONSORS ONE CHILD FOR ONE MONTH**

**\$168 SPONSORS ONE CHILD FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL YEAR**



# BackPack By The Numbers



AVERAGE CHILDREN SERVED WEEKLY



BAGS DISTRIBUTED



COST OF PROGRAM

	AVERAGE CHILDREN SERVED WEEKLY	BAGS DISTRIBUTED	COST OF PROGRAM
BUTLER COUNTY	1,459	42,139	\$238,928
DARKE COUNTY	387	11,219	\$63,612
MIAMI COUNTY	23	666	\$3,776
PREBLE COUNTY	305	8,838	\$50,112
WARREN COUNTY	612	17,754	\$100,665
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,786</b>	<b>80,616</b>	<b>\$457,093</b>

## The BackPack Program Works

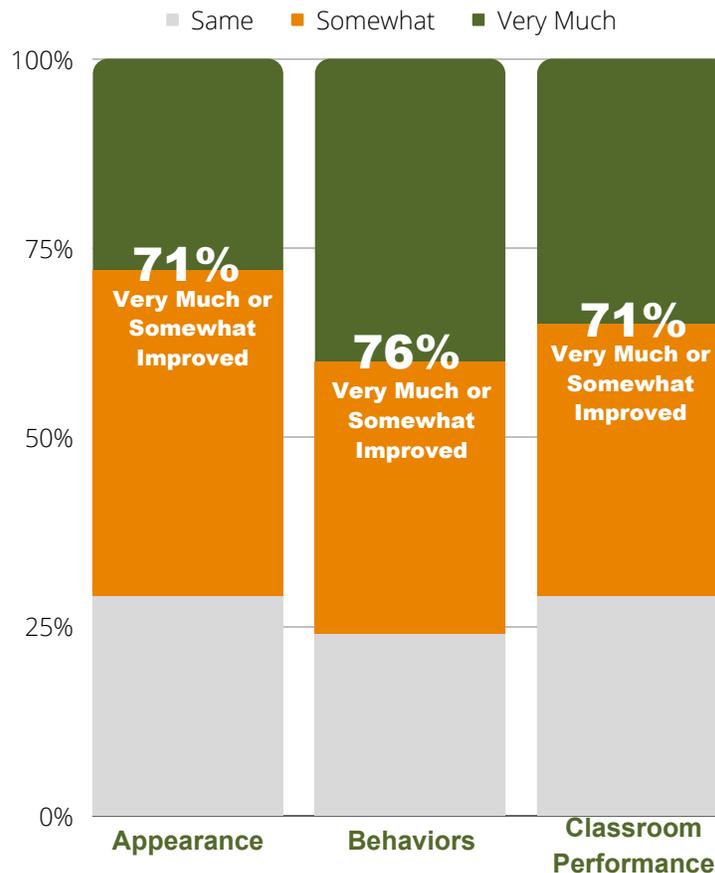
### APPEARANCE



### BEHAVIORS



### CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE



# Meet Lydia

An average of 2,800 PreK-6th grade students participated in the Backpack Program for the 2021/2022 school year. We had a chance to sit down and talk with one of the families. Lydia learned about the Backpack Program for her son just this year. Here is what she had to say about how it has helped her son and her family:

## What has the Backpack Program meant for your son and your family?

It has helped us out a lot especially with food security, especially due to the pandemic. Also our oldest is autistic so we know there are a couple cereals we can count on each weekend that he will actually eat as we have not always been able to find foods in the store that he will eat.



## In reverse, without food security programs like the Backpack Program, what would that mean to your family?

It would be really hard. I'm on disability due to being legally blind and we have a fixed income. With bills and the price of everything going up, It's hard even with these programs sometimes.

## How has the rise in food costs affected food security in your home?

We have been getting extra benefits right now because of pandemic but I know without those extra benefits, we would not be able to stretch the dollars as far as we have been. Even now towards the end of the month we are limited with what we can eat which is fine for most of us, but for my son, it is more difficult because he is so selective in what he will eat.



## Our Backpack Program is 100% donor funded. Is there anything you would like to say to the donors who help support this program?

I mean definitely thank you. It has helped so much. We don't always know if we will have food on the shelves for the kids so this program, at least for the weekend, relieves some of that worry. I also know that many other families are getting helped like us.

# Testimonies From The Field

Evaluation forms are completed by teachers, counselors and administrators to help us understand the impact of the BackPack Program for their students. Students are referred to the BackPack Program because they have exhibited at least one of the signs indicating chronic hunger related to behavior, appearance and/or performance. Here are a few of the comments we received.



"I had parents that expressed appreciation for the additional food. I have parents that are trying to catch up with bills and the rising cost of groceries added to the financial strain. The program has helped a great deal."

Brookwood

"Academics have improved since attendance has improved. Thank you for providing additional food for our students"

Preble Shawnee Elementary



"The students who received the bags were so appreciative. They made comments throughout the year that they needed the food and liked it as well. They also got excited when there were notes or special gifts. That was a big deal to them. Thank you so much for supporting our families."

Gerke Elementary



# Giving

## Food Donors

- Girl Scouts of Western Ohio
- Interstate Warehousing
- La Soupe
- McLane Global/Roland
- Mondelez Global LLC
- Ohio Association of Foodbanks
- Ohio Dept. of Job & Family Services
- Taylor Farms
- Tyson
- Zartran Trucking

## Food Drives

- Anonymous
- Brands Insurance
- Carmax
- Dagda's Cauldron
- NALC \*see chart
- University Moving & Storage (Great North American Food Drive)

## Retail Rescue

- Aldi
- Amazon
- Kroger
- Meijer
- Target
- Walmart

## Stamp Out Hunger Breakdown

LOCATION:	POUNDS:	CASH:
Fairfield	5955	\$ 15.00
Hamilton	3440	\$ -
Middletown	457	
Monroe	1085	\$ -
Trenton	905	\$ 50.00
West Chester	1005	\$ -
	<b>12847</b>	<b>\$ 65.00</b>

A HUGE THANK YOU TO



**KraftHeinz**

FOR THEIR DONATION OF \$20,000

TO PURCHASE BACKPACK BAGS  
FOR OVER 300 KIDS WEEKLY IN  
PREBLE COUNTY

## 1.8M LBS RECIEVED IN SECOND QUARTER

### In Memory of...

- Virginia Elam  
by John & Judith Andrews
- Marlene Cole  
by Richard & Barbara Begley
- Jim  
by Judy Bowling
- Joan & Val Santhouse  
by Joseph & Veronica Craig
- Edward J. Demske  
by Elizabeth Demske
- Men in my life  
by Donna Denning
- Margie Doyle  
by Vincent Doyle
- Ann Fritz  
by Thomas & Molly Fritz
- Katie Whitlock  
by Ron & Robin Herzog
- Rhonda Griffin  
by Becky Hileman
- Charlene Estes  
by Arlene Holden
- Richard Farnsworth  
by Mary Ann Long
- Joy Smilth, Lillian Silva, &  
Vicki Sager  
by Susan Marvin
- SSG Robert A Massarelli  
KIA 6/24/2012  
by Pat & Mary Massarelli
- Jerry McClure  
by Frances McClure
- Mollie Osman & Iva Glancy  
by Ronald & Karen Osman
- Diane Robinson  
by Louis Robinson

### In Honor of...

- Eid Mubarak to those celebrating  
Ramadan  
by Elizabeth Hayward
- Tina Osso  
by James & Susan Fitton
- Doris Heffron  
by Richard & Mary Griss
- Tina Osso  
by Mary Ann Long
- Belinda J. Brewer  
by Michael Stroup

### A note from one of our donors:

*None of us know when we may need help so while we are financially able to help others we should do that!*



FOODBANK

5901 Dixie Highway  
Fairfield, Ohio 45014-4207  
www.sharedharvest.org  
513-881-9024

Apr-Jun 2022

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Cincinnati, OH  
Permit No. 770

## Foodbank Staff

Samantha Durko	Inventory Coordinator
Peter Engelhard	Programs Coordinator
Amberlee Finkes	Supply Chain Manager
Greg Fish	Driver/Distribution Center Associate
Nikki Jennings	Partner Relationship Manager
Kendal McBride	Driver/Distribution Center Associate
Sandra McCauley	Finance Manager
Sarah Ormbrek	Marketing Specialist
Terry Perdue	Executive Director
K.R.	Production Associate
B. S.	Facilities Associate
W. S.	Production Associate
Mike Stamper	Driver/Distribution Center Associate
Scott Stapleton	Distribution Center Manager
Trisha Unwin	Volunteer and Event Coordinator
Robert Zohfeld	Programs Manager

## BackPack Partners



- Anonymous Family-Ross Local Schools
- Butler County Educational Service Center
- Cove Spring Church
- Edgewood Ministerial Association
- Grace Resurrection Community Center
- Jacob's Ladder
- Joshua's Place
- Kindness Backpack
- Lebanon Warriors Backpack
- Little Miami Panthers Backpack
- St. Mary
- St. Vincent de Paul Middletown
- Springboro Community Assistance Center
- Tipp City Church of Nazarene

