



Share Backpack Program

There are 80,000+ children in Clark County* who receive free and reduced-fee meals at our schools during the week. Many of these children are unsure whether they will have a meal on the weekends. To help address this food insecurity, Share serves 93 schools in all three of our school-year Hunger Response programs, which include our Backpacks, Fresh Food Pantries and Pantry Boxes. (Note that some schools receive food from multiple programs.)

Currently, 1,700+ bags of food each week are filled with non-perishable, easy-to-prepare food. The bags are then distributed to kids at 85 schools including elementary, middle and high schools, as well as EOCF Head Start programs. The bags are discretely given out each Friday for kids to take home on the weekends.

Added to those packs are 13 sets of Pantry Boxes that are delivered to middle and high schools to help support 20+ kids per school. The high school boxes weigh about 25 lbs. each.

We also have 25 Supplemental Fresh Food Pantries that once or twice a month a school fresh food pantry receives 500-700 pounds of fresh produce, dairy, meat and bread.

Below is a list of most needed items to support these programs:

- **Fruit:** canned fruit, fruit cups, applesauce cups, dried fruit
- **Canned vegetables**
- **Grains** (2 lb. pkg or smaller): pasta, rice, cereal, oatmeal, instant potatoes
- **Dry beans**
- **Canned** soup, beans, ravioli, chili, spaghetti sauce
- **Boxed dinners:** macaroni & cheese, pasta sides, hamburger/tuna helper
- **Protein:** tuna, canned chicken, canned ham, other shelf-stable meats, peanut butter
- **Reusable bags** in which to pack food for students
- **Important food items for homeless students:** microwaveable meals, cup of soup, easy open tuna, trail mix, cereal, granola, protein bars, beef jerky, jelly, instant oatmeal, pudding cups, single serving items that are 'heat & eat', juice, water

*Please make sure all **food is unopened and not expired** before donating.*

If possible, please deliver food donations in reusable grocery bags. Reusable bags are used to deliver food to kids each week and helps us reduce our environmental impact.

Space in bags is limited so smaller items are preferred and allow us to pack more into each bag.

*As bags are being distributed to young children, we **do not include any glass in the bags, so plastic jars and containers are preferred.***



Thanks for supporting this vital program to feed children at risk of hunger!



Questions? Hunger Response Assistant Director
(360) 952-8221, hungerresponse@sharevancouver.org

* 78,000+ of those children are located in districts in which our Backpack Program operates