

## The Need

In Mt. Prospect there are children eligible for a free or reduced-price lunch. There are a number of working families who can't make ends meet. A parent is laid off from work. A car breaks down. A child gets sick and there is no health insurance. Any of these things can cause stress to a family's financial situation and force parents to make difficult choices about whether to pay bills or buy food. Even though children in these families may qualify for a free or reduced lunch at school during the week, on weekends and holidays their food source is less certain. Hungry children have lower test scores, diminished learning capacity, increased behavior problems and increased tardiness and absences.



**"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink"**  
Matthew 25:35

## The Idea

Because we want to get food to children and their families, we will:

- Collect food or money from the church community
- Fill backpacks by Wednesday
- Provide food for six meals and two snacks
- Deliver backpacks to school by Friday morning
- In addition, school social workers will determine who receives a backpack.
- School staff will contact children to pick up their backpack
- Children will return empty backpack on Monday
- Volunteers will bring empty backpacks to the church and the process will begin again

## The Mission

Our mission is to follow Jesus's instructions to feed the hungry. It costs \$6 to fill one backpack. We will look for funding and food donations from the community. Our goal is to start at one school and include other schools as more groups or churches get involved.

## VOLUNTEERS

Individuals or groups needed to:

- \*Pack backpacks
- \*Deliver backpacks to school
- \*Pick up backpacks from school
- \*Organize food
- \*Give monetary donations
- \*Give food
- \*Sponsor a child (\$6 a week)
- \*Pray for ministry

## Food Donations

Single serving cereal boxes  
Individual Packets of oatmeal  
Raisins in small boxes  
Granola Bars  
Peanut Butter  
Canned spaghetti  
Canned Beef Stew  
Canned Chili  
Individual packets of tuna  
Vienna Sausages  
Macaroni and Cheese  
Soup  
Canned Fruit  
Fruit Cups  
Canned Vegetables  
Juice Boxes  
Shelf ready milk  
Pudding Cups  
Individual packs of cookies



No glass jars or  
microwavable  
meals.

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# Back Pack Ministry

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you gave me food, I  
was thirsty and you  
gave me something to  
drink.”

Matthew 25:35

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