



BackPack BEGINNINGS

SAVE THE DATE

Open House/Volunteer Appreciation Event

Saturday, May 4th from 2-4 pm

BPB's office: 3714 Alliance Drive, Suite 105, Greensboro

door prizes, food and more



What are our biggest needs this quarter? For our Food Backpack Program, we are in need of 100% juice boxes, applesauce cups, fruit cups, Chef Boyardee microwavable meals and individual cereals. For our Comfort Backpack

Program, we are in need of shampoo, coloring books, playing cards and body wash.



New Blog Launched

We are thrilled to announce that we have launched a new blog on our website! With the help of our new blog writer, Thea DeLoreto, we can now share personal stories from our donors, volunteers, supporters, teachers, social workers and even the children we serve.

Check out this excerpt from one of our upcoming blogs:

"Javaris's short life has been hard. Several years ago his house burned down and his family lost a lot. He has changed schools multiple times because losing their home has forced his mom to move them around. Now finally living with his grandmother, Javaris is back at Irving Park and getting settled into his new classroom. He began receiving his bag from BackPack Beginnings and it has been a big help. With very little money, no real home, and little food, the food in his bag is making a huge difference in his hunger level."

We will post a new blog every Monday on our website and Facebook page. Make sure you follow us so you don't miss out! Click [here](#) for our most recent blogs.

By the numbers:

10,923 Bags of food distributed between September 2012 and the end of January 2013

2,081 Clothing items handed out since May 2012

865 Comfort BackPacks distributed to abused/neglected, foster, homeless and refugee children since May 2012

704 children being fed by our Food Backpack Program each week

With your help, we were able to reach our goal of handing out a toothbrush and toothpaste to all 704 children in our Food Backpack Program last month! A HUGE thank you to Drs. Charles Norman, Graham Farless, Scott Cashion, Richard Redding and David and Janna Civils for their donations.

18 Guilford County schools being fed by our Food BackPack Program



A huge thank you to our most recent donors and volunteers! They include Girl Scout Troop #41746, Commonwealth Hosiery Mills, St. Paul Presbyterian Church, Girl Scout Troop #40153, Mom's Club, UNCG Nutrition Club and more. We especially want to highlight Nike for their donation of 500 duffel bags and Barnes and Noble for their winter drive of 3,215 books, 2,481 milks, 771 granola bars and 10 stuffed animals. Do you want to get involved? There are many different opportunities for all different age groups. Contact us for more information.

Hat and Glove drive a success! Thank you to the Junior League of Greensboro, Applied Copier Concepts, St. Pius Church and BB&T for collecting hats, gloves and scarves for the children we serve in our Food BackPack Program. With their support, 305 children received these needed items in December. A big thank you to one of our in-kind volunteers, Kara Cox, for organizing the drive!

Continuing to expand...

In January, BackPack Beginnings expanded our Food BackPack Program to Jefferson Elementary, and we plan to launch at Gillespie Park in March. These additions mark our 17th and 18th schools! Beyond these new schools, we have also increased the number of children we serve at Rankin and Northwood Elementary. In March, we will be serving 734 children each week through our Food BackPack Program. We couldn't have done it without the support and help of our volunteers and donors; thank you for your support in helping us serve more children!



Are you participating in the Human Race on Saturday, April 13th? If so, consider walking/running on behalf of BackPack Beginnings. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Want a day off from cooking? You've got it!! On Wednesday, March 13th, head to [Papa Murphy's](#) on Battleground, purchase a premade pizza and 15% goes to BPB! It doesn't get much better than that!

GREAT NEWS!! We are thrilled to announce that we were recently awarded grant money for both our Food and Comfort BackPack Programs from The Joseph M. Bryan Human Services Grant, The Tannenbaum-Stemberger Foundation, Syngenta and The Community Enrichment and Venture Grant. We thank them for their support of our organization!

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