



FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES PARTNERS



Engaging our community
in solving youth hunger
2021-2022
ANNUAL REPORT

TOGETHER WE MAKE AN IMPACT

SCHOOL YEAR SERVICES



BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM GRADES K-5:

The BackPack Food Program provides youth friendly and nutritious breakfasts, lunches & snacks for weekends and extended school breaks.



POWER PACK PROGRAM GRADES 6-8:

The BackPack Food Program with an extra boost. The Power Pack Program provides weekend food packs and additional snacks during the school week.



HIGH SCHOOL PANTRY GRADES 9-12:

The High School Pantry service is offered at 5 area high schools. Students have access to supplemental snacks and meal options that are age-friendly.

HOW FOOD IS DISTRIBUTED:

Food leaves FOCF's warehouse each week & is distributed to schools by volunteers. From there, packs are placed directly into student's backpacks to take home on weekends & extended breaks.

HOW FOOD IS DISTRIBUTED:

Students can access food as a prepared cinch sack containing multiple food items, or pick and choose individual food items.

SUMMER SERVICES

SUMMER PACK PROGRAM GRADES K-12:

The Summer Pack Food Program provides breakfasts, lunches and snacks for weekends during the summer months.



HOW FOOD IS DISTRIBUTED:

Boxes are delivered monthly to the doorsteps of enrolled youth. Boxes contain one month's worth of weekend food.



STOMP PROGRAM GRADES K-12:

STOMP is FOCF's only WEEKDAY meal program that offers free lunches Monday-Friday during the summer at several locations.

HOW FOOD IS DISTRIBUTED:

All youth 18 and under can receive FREE lunches offered at various pick up sites throughout the Mankato area.

STAFF

Sheri Sander-Silva

Executive Director

Rob Cornelius

Director of Operations

Lori Wollmuth

Community Relations Manager

BriAnna Dols

Marketing & Design Manager

Lillie Herbst (previous)

Marketing & Communications Manager

Holly Dodge

Communications Coordinator

Alina Johnson (previous)

Digital Content Coordinator

Melissa Trent

Program Manager

Jessica Tilson (previous)

Program Manager

Layne Boswell

Program Coordinator

INTERNS

Community Relations Interns

Kaitlin Odell

Autumn Ritter

Marketing & Communications Interns

BriAnna Dols

Chase Horrigan

Programming Interns

Chase Thomas

Pamela Giordano

Kayla Rinderknecht

Taylor Pfrommer



COMMITMENT TO MISSION

“FOCP is dedicated to meeting the needs of area food-insecure youth, increasing food access & minimizing worry about where the next meal may come from. With an unwavering commitment to providing food as the basic fuel for success, our goal is to support youth in thriving at every stage of life.”

-Sheri Sander-Silva, Executive Director, FOC



Packing Experience Supported by



EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEERS

“FOCP’s food programs help the kids realize that people are looking out for them and that people care about them. I think we’re providing a service that will help youth have a better education and perhaps be a better part of the community themselves as they grow up.”

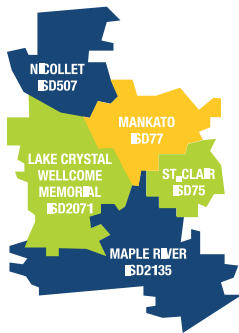
-Jim Hatleli, Retired Teacher & All-Star Volunteer

FUELING OUR YOUTH

In the 2021-2022 school year, FOCPP served:

232,515 weekend meals + **1,481** weekday summer meals =

233,996 meals



5
Districts
30
School Buildings
1085
Students Served

"The Backpack Food Program makes me feel that I am important and my needs are being met. I really like that."

- BP Program Recipient

1,284 Volunteers | 4,978 Hours



Summer & Winter Break Deliveries



Pack Sessions at Backpack Central



STOMP Distribution Volunteers



of families report that the Backpack/Power Pack programs, allow them to worry less about weekend meals

"Students who receive this resource anticipate its arrival and depend on what it brings to sustain their health and wellness."

- Teacher Testimonial

IT'S MORE THAN FOOD

**top student improvements reported by area teachers*



ability to concentrate



energy levels



attendance

A Look Inside the Food Pack

We provide youth-friendly, shelf-stable and single serving meal items that meet all dietary guidelines and the 5 major food groups (fruits, grains, vegetables, protein & dairy.)

Also Included:



Produce & Milk Vouchers for Local Stores



Updated Allergy Friendly Food Menus

MEET THE NEED EVERY AGE, EVERY STAGE

Hunger doesn't have age restrictions or end with the school year. FOCF services continue to evolve to meet the needs of area food-insecure youth, now serving grades K-12. With the addition of high school food pantries & enhanced summer meal options, we provide food access without barriers.

The High School Pantry Program

Serving grades 9-12 at 5 schools



1,762 pounds of food donated to the food pantry

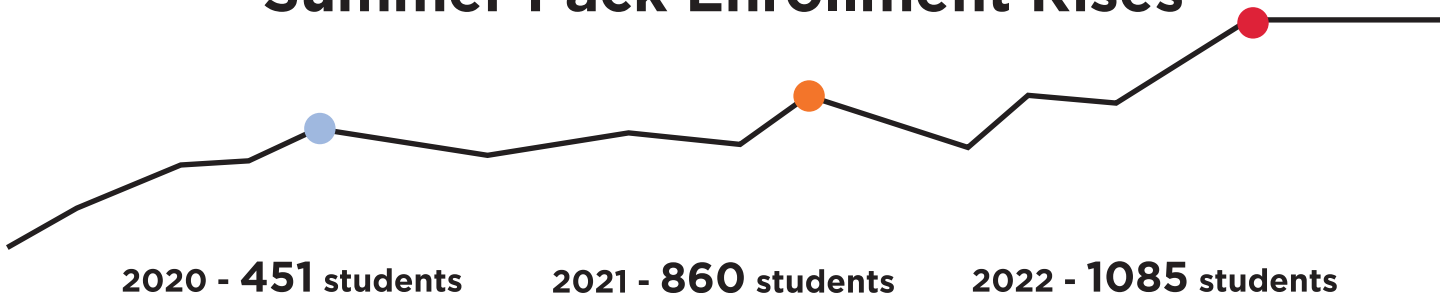


Supplemental snacks and meal options are brought to 5 schools



Food is available to students via a pantry or a cinch bag method

Summer Pack Enrollment Rises



Summer Pack Partners

Area partners provided additional resources for youth!

Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota
A-OK
Open Door Health Center

SummerTime Outreach Meal Program

Served **1,481** lunches to K-12 at 4 food-desert locations



Living Earth Center provided vegetables

"Working with FOCF was something I'll never forget. Meeting all the volunteers and seeing our community work together to make sure our Mankato area youth have the chance to grow and thrive, it's hard to put into words."

- Nerissa Hoag Hoover Elem. Cook Manager



STOMP Meal Highlight = Taco (in a bag) Wednesdays

STOMP Partners

Area partners handed out lunches!

US Bank
Grace Lutheran Church
Blue Star Power Systems Inc.
Messiah Lutheran Church
Scheels Mankato
Christ the King Lutheran Church
Hosanna Lutheran Church



TREMENDOUS SUPPORTERS

"I volunteer with Feeding Our Communities Partners because I care deeply about solving the crisis of food insecurity in the Greater Mankato area and about treating all people in need with generosity and dignity."

-Will Broussard, MNSU Alumni Foundation & Hunger Hero



SUPERSTAR SUPPORTERS

“Regular access to food is not a right, condition of class, or a privilege. It is a basic human need, and sometimes families struggle with getting their needs met. Taking a stress like that off a child’s mind creates more room for joy in their hearts, because they grow up to become joyful adults.”

-Jacob Walters, MN River Valley Title & Abstracting Co. & Hunger Hero

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY



CLIMB 2 FEED KIDS

JANUARY

Dress Warm

Annual all-ages relay style Climb & Slide Fundraising Event on the tubing hill at Mount Kato.

Teams of 5-10 members commit to raising \$1,500 in support of FOCP's mission to solve youth hunger

Teams summit and plummet, climbing 500 feet up the tubing hill and plunging to the bottom to tag their next team member

Prizes are awarded for fastest time, most funds raised, and team spirit

Over 75 community volunteers and partners make this event a success

C2FK contributes roughly 50% of FOCP's yearly food budget



BEER, BRATS & BOURBON

JUNE

Dress Down

Annual spirited fundraising event at Backpack Central raises a glass to raise awareness of youth hunger.

Laid back event features beer and bourbon tastings, grilled fare, games, silent auction and the best live music

Guests are able to directly connect with the mission of FOCP by experiencing the heart of the operation - right here in our warehouse

Funds raised from this fun event are crucial to help purchase food for student's extended summer break



CIRQUE DU CRAVE

OCTOBER

Dress Up

Annual circus-themed culinary competition & fundraising event

A dazzling evening featuring the best local chefs in the area, competing to create the most unique cuisine utilizing a Backpack food pack menu item

Breathtaking circus entertainment and sideshow acts

Specially curated alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails

Funds raised provide critical funding as area students begin the new school year

FEEDING PARTNERS



FUELING PARTNERS

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In Memory of Dan Sommervold
In Memory of Lynn Pierce
In Memory of Mark Brooks
Happy Birthday Nancy Bruce
Happy 85th Birthday Leonord Eibs
In Celebration of Elmer & Sharon Bocker
Happy Birthday Ryan McMahan

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Bolton & Menk, Inc
City of Mankato
FUN.COM
Goodtimes Manufacturing
Navitor
Volk Transfer Inc.

**SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW
ALL PARTNERS**



Gifts recognized in this report were received 7-1-2021 through 6-30-2022. For corrections contact us at focp.admin@feedingandfueling.org.

“I was a teacher for 38 years and the last many years we had kids who utilized FOCP food programs and my kids loved getting the food each week. They really did so much better in school, they had food at home they were excited about.”

-WENDY REDMAN-HOWIESON
RETIRED TEACHER

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