

**WHAT IS THE BACKPACK PROGRAM?** A group of people associated with Granite Falls Middle School organizes a Weekend Backpack Food Program, which is designed to help students who rely on school meals throughout the week and need that continued meal support over the weekend. Through this program, students are sent home with a small backpack of food on Friday. The hope is that this food will help “replace” the breakfast/lunch they usually get at school. The students return the backpack to school on the following Monday or Tuesday, so that the backpack can be refilled for the Friday at the end of that week.

**WHAT IS IN THE BAG?** Typically we put two breakfast items, two lunch items, an extra meal, and some snacks. Occasionally we will have loaves of bread, jars of peanut butter, or other special items to put in for the kiddos.

**WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER SCHOOLS?** As needs arise at the other schools in the district we work with the secretaries to help out their families. Typically, though, our students have siblings in the other schools. When this is the case, we always add more to the bag we send home each week.

**HOW CAN I HELP?** The most important way you can help is to **donate food** to the middle school office when you see it go on sale. Even a few cans of chili or boxes of macaroni donated by several people means that is money we did not have to spend. The second most important way you can help is to **donate money**. It costs about \$5 a week per bag, so *roughly \$20-\$25 a month to "SPONSOR" a backpack*. We get the funds through small grants or generous community members.

- If you are interested in "sponsoring" a bag or helping with the needs of the kiddos in this community please contact Robynn Barth at [robynn.barth@gmail.com](mailto:robynn.barth@gmail.com)
- Another way to help is by donating through the Go Fund Me that was set up through the [Granite Falls Community Coalition](#). You can earmark the funds for the Weekend Backpack Program. You will be making a *tax-deductible donation* to a non-profit organization.
- Another, and a SUPER cool, way to help would be for students looking to earn COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS. Consider spending a few hours on a weekend at IGA, Grocery Outlet, or Albertsons collecting donations for our program. If you are interested in this, please contact the Community Coalition, the Youth Coalition, or Mrs. Barth. We can get you set up with flyers to help in your quest!