

Transylvania County Schools
Department of Child Nutrition
225 Rosenwald Lane
Brevard, NC 28712
828-884-6173 phone
828-885-7395 fax

September 21, 2011

Time Sensitive

Attention: Community Organizations, Churches and Businesses

RE: 2011-12 Back Pack Buddies Program for exceptionally needy students

Dear School Supporter:

The Back Pack Buddies Food Program, provides a food pack on Friday afternoon's, to children who are in extreme need situations and are likely to have inadequate food for the weekend.

This year Manna Food Bank has limited the number of packs we receive to 150 per week. We have about 75-100 students per week who will go without food packs unless we find other sponsorship.

After discussing this matter with school officials and Superintendent, Dr. Jeffrey S. McDaris, we believe the significant needs of these students, warrant our pursuit of community support in an effort to continue Back Pack Buddies for all students this 2011-12 year.

Therefore we are looking for sponsors for 75 to 100 children at \$150 per child; \$150 /child will provide a food pack each weekend from October through the end of the school year.

We have made arrangements with Change the World Relief Organization, (a local 501 (c)3 organization); (working with Anchor Baptist Missions) to purchase and pack the food packs for these children at \$5.00 per week. for the 2011-12 school year.

Please direct any questions to Carolyn A. Barton, Director of Child Nutrition, Transylvania County Schools, at 828-884-6173, or cgbarton@tcsnc.org.
(See Sponsor Form, Facts & Talking Points sheet attached)

Yours Truly,

Carolyn A. Barton
Director Child Nutrition
cab/encls (9-21-11)

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RE: 2011-12 Back Pack Buddies Program for exceptionally needy students

Facts & Talking Points:

***Currently over 2,000 Transylvania County School Students depend on free or reduced priced meals each day. About 10% of those students have been identified by school counselors, teachers or administrators as being exceptionally needy. It is these exceptionally needy students who receive the Backpack Buddies Program.**

***Transylvania County Schools-Child Nutrition has coordinated this program for the last three years. Until this year, Manna Food bank has provided all the food packs through grant funding, food drives and other donations.**

***Note: Currently the cost to provide food packs for middle school children has been covered by a private donation, but this will end September 30, 2011.**

***NOTE: Although Manna may see an increase in funding in 2012, we have many children who are going to go without food packs this fall and winter, and there is no guarantee Manna will receive additional funding. Therefore, we are looking for sponsors to cover these children now.**

*** NOTE: Any surplus funds will be used to purchase additional food items for food packs and and/or hygiene items (ex., toothbrush/toothpaste). All funds collected will be expended for the benefit of Back Pack Buddy recipients by June 30, 2011.**

***Note: Food packs provide food sufficient to help get a child through the weekend. They do not provide enough to get them through the entire Christmas Break or Spring Break week, etc.**

***Manna packs are being provided to Elementary Students now and we will first obtain sponsors for Middle School then High School Students.**

*** Please direct questions to : Carolyn A. Barton, Director of Child Nutrition, Transylvania County Schools, 225 Rosenwald Lane, Brevard, NC 28712
828-884-6173 phone, or cgbarton@tcsnc.org (9-21-11)**