

## How to Donate

Please indicate "LODI SCHOOLS" on all donations to ensure funds are allocated to the Lodi School fund.

100% of all money raised remains local and will be placed in the district's account at Blessings in a Backpack to be used for the purchase of the food.

### **DONATING TO BLESSINGS IS EASY**

1. You can visit their website and make your payment online using a credit card. Under the "Designation" section choose "specific school". Then in the "comments" box, type "**Lodi Schools**".
2. If you would like the gift to be a monthly recurring donation, you may click the Recurring gift button below the "additional information" section and enter the "end" and "start" dates.
3. Donations by mail: All checks should be made out to "Blessings in a Backpack" with **LODI SCHOOLS** in the memo line and mailed to:  
**Blessing in a Backpack Lockbox,  
PO Box 950291, Louisville, KY  
40295** OR checks can be mailed to the local address provided on the back of this flyer.

Gifts may be made in "honor, memory or celebration" of. Tribute letters are available on the website (under the donation section) for you to send or can be sent on your behalf.

**ALL donations are tax deductible.** You will receive a donation letter which you can use for tax deduction purposes.

Questions or interest in the program may be directed to any of the following:

**Chris Niemeier**  
(608) 592-5760  
chris@biggain.com

**Lyle Hendrickson**  
(608) 592-3842 Ext. 2102  
hendrly@lodischoolswi.org

**Marcia Brown**  
(608) 592-7296  
mbrown2119@charter.net

**Lori Harrenstein**  
(608) 206-1072  
llharrenstein@gmail.com

**Daniel Sjogren**  
(608) 592-3091  
daniel@lwefc.org

**Penny Schmiedlin**  
(608) 592-3234  
pennyjps@yahoo.com

**Donations can be mailed or dropped off locally to:**

**Lodi Elementary School**  
c/o Lyle Hendrickson  
101 School St.  
Lodi, WI 53555

 **Find us on Facebook at:**  
[facebook.com/LodiBlessings](https://facebook.com/LodiBlessings)

**Spread the word about the program or consider becoming a volunteer!**

[www.blessingsinabackpack.org](http://www.blessingsinabackpack.org)

Blessings in a  
**Backpack**  
*Feeding The Future Of America*<sup>®</sup>

**A program to provide food on the weekends for children in need at Lodi Elementary School**



Blessings in a Backpack is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that currently feeds over 88,000 children in 1001 schools in 47 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. The program is a hybrid of private sector funding and public partnership carried out in public schools.

# THE NEED

WHAT MAKES THE BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK PROGRAM NEEDED?



20%

OF STUDENTS IN THE LODI SCHOOL DISTRICT QUALIFY FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM

70%

OF AMERICAN SCHOOL CHILDREN RELY ON SCHOOL PROVIDED MEALS AS THEIR MAIN SOURCE OF NOURISHMENT MEANING THEY GO WITHOUT THOSE MEALS ON WEEKENDS



OVER 30 FAMILIES WOULD BENEFIT



LOCAL OFFICIALS HAVE ALREADY IDENTIFIED OVER 30 FAMILIES IN LODI THAT WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS PROGRAM. THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO MEET A REAL NEED RIGHT HERE IN OUR COMMUNITY!



60% GOT IN LESS TROUBLE



60% REPORTED IMPROVED ATTENDANCE



78% FEEL CARED FOR BY THEIR COMMUNITY



59% FIND IT EASIER TO LEARN AT SCHOOL

[WWW.BLESSINGSINABACKPACK.ORG](http://WWW.BLESSINGSINABACKPACK.ORG)

## How It Works

- Volunteers have identified a need to start the program at the Lodi Elementary School
- Children receive a referral by a school staff member.
- Letters are mailed home inviting families to participate.
- The Blessings in a Backpack organization provides the structure and support for the program.
- Volunteers shop for food items and pack individual bags which are then distributed discreetly to the children at school, to bring home with them at the end of the school week.
- Items that are offered include easy to prepare, kid-friendly, nutritious and non-perishable items. Some examples are: granola bars, peanut butter, oatmeal, pork and beans, applesauce, soup, crackers, mac & cheese and cereal.
- Confidentiality of all participants is always maintained in all areas of the program.

## Goals & Objectives

- To provide nutritional food on the weekends for any child in need.
  - To provide a better chance of educational success through better test scores, improved reading skills, positive behavior, improved health and increased school attendance.
- To demonstrate to our children that they are cared for, even when not in school.

3

WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

### DONATE YOUR TIME



If you are able to help pack meals, buy groceries, attend meetings...etc. your time is a huge help to growing and sustaining the Blessings in a Backpack program here in Lodi. Grant writers are also needed. If you are able to help pack meals, please contact a team member listed on the back of the brochure.

### DONATE FINANCIALLY



It only takes \$100 to feed a child each school weekend for an entire year! With over 50 families in the Lodi area in need of food assistance, your financial donation will have a positive impact on the lives of children throughout the Lodi area. You can sponsor a child, family, or a fundraiser event. For more information on how to donate, please refer to the donation information section of the brochure.

### BE AN ADVOCATE



Help extend our reach by telling others about the program and supporting us via social media. Tell friends, neighbors, relatives, and co-workers. Invite businesses to partner with us and let families in need know about Blessings in a Backpack.