



## Facts About Childhood Hunger in Montana:

- One in 5 children in Montana lives in poverty.
- Parents often skip meals so they can feed a child.
- A survey of food pantry clients showed 16% of children had skipped meals.

## Reducing Childhood Hunger Results in:

- Improved motor skills, memory and social interaction.
- Reduction in grade repetition, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, and behavior problems in class.
- Improved math and reading scores.
- Improved physical and cognitive development.

For information on the Backpack Program in your area, please contact:

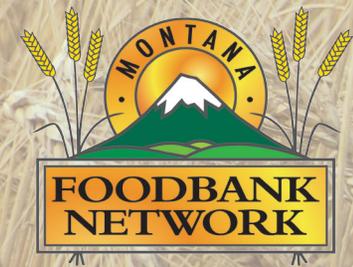
**Montana Food Bank Network**  
5625 Expressway  
Missoula, MT 59808  
406.721.3825 or 800.809.4752  
[www.mfbn.org](http://www.mfbn.org)



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# Help us End Child Hunger in Montana



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## Mission of the Backpack Program

The mission of the Backpack Program is to meet the needs of hungry children by providing them with nutritious and easy-to-prepare food to take home on weekends and school vacations when other resources are not available.

## Program Objectives

- Provide nutritious food for hungry children on weekends and holidays when they are away from the school breakfast and lunch programs they depend upon.
- Distribute food discreetly in easily accessible and safe environments.
- Involve additional resources and partners in order to assure sustainability of the program.



## How you can help end Child Hunger in Montana

In 2008 Montana Food Bank Network's first Backpack Program was started in DeSmet School in Missoula. The program has expanded to 49 sites across Montana and continues to feed hungry Montana children through local collaborations.



## Sponsor a Child

**\$15** Provides Backpack food for **1 child for 1 month**

**\$30** Provides Backpack food for **1 child for 2 months**

**\$168** Provides Backpack food for **1 child for 1 school year**

**\$6,500** Provides Backpack program at **1 school for 1 year\***

\*based on average costs of programs at current schools participating

*Montana Food Bank Network is the fiscal agent for the Backpack Program in Montana.*

***Please make checks payable to "MFBN Backpack Program".***

*You may also donate online: [www.mfbn.org/donate](http://www.mfbn.org/donate), please type "BackPack" in the comment box.*

*MFBN is a non-profit organization, and always welcomes donations and financial sponsors.*

***If you would like to help with core operation and food purchasing costs for the Backpack Program please contact us at 1-800-809-4752***

*"They give me more food to eat because usually we don't have any money."  
-4th Grader at Franklin Elementary School in Missoula, MT*