

For some children, two days off from school means two days of going hungry.

"I just wanted to send you all a note to remind you of the difference you are making! I have two children now that benefit from what you are doing, and I am telling you they LOVE when they have special surprises in their backpacks.

You need to know that these two boys really do need what they get from you, and it warms my heart knowing that at least they are going home this weekend with something to put in their little bellies!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!"

-Melissa, Riverview Elementary Teacher



The mission of Angels of Action is to change lives by providing nutritious food to K-4 children identified by their school as being at risk of going hungry over weekends during the school year. We hope to help all food-insecure children within Mecosta County as resources become available.



Angels of Action

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Angels of Action is a 501(3)c non-profit organization.

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Not every child looks forward to the weekend.

Why? Because at school they get to eat. This may be the only place they get to eat.

There are a surprising number of our local children who go hungry over the weekend because there simply is not enough food at home. 3,914 youngsters or 59.5% of Mecosta County's school-aged children lack nutritious food sources over the weekend.

Something must be done.

This is where Angels of Action comes in.

Working with local K-4 teachers and school administrators, children at greatest risk of going hungry over the weekend are identified. To ensure that they have something to eat over the weekend, these children are given a backpack filled with nutritious food every Friday of the school year.

Each backpack holds two breakfasts and two lunches along with two snacks and two drinks. It may not sound like much, but this is likely all they will have until arriving at school Monday morning.

The Backpack Blessings program began in 2011 serving 75 children in three schools. Through the generosity of the community the number of children served doubled to 150 by year-end. Preparations are being made to expand and serve at least 400 children during the 2012-13 school year.

Our goal is to help feed every hungry child in Mecosta County.

One backpack at a time.

“Just letting you know what an impact you are making on a few of my students. Every Friday they are so excited to see if the Angels have come to their locker. If only you could see their little eyes light up! Sad to say, this might possibly be the only food some have over the weekend. Thank you for making a difference in our children.”
-Terri, Riverview Elementary Teacher

Be An Angel

There are many ways that you can be involved in the mission of Angels of Action.

Give generously. It is important to know that 100% of monetary donations stays in Mecosta County and goes directly to procuring, packing and distributing bags of food. Your donation is tax deductible.

Volunteer your time. Work that needs to be done includes shopping for food, inventorying supplies, delivering weekly backpacks, fundraising, and logistic planning. Visit AngelsOfAction.org to sign up to be a Volunteer Angel.

Organize a fundraiser or food drive. Help us keep the pantry shelves full of individual serving sized items. Our step-by-step guide can be found at AngelsOfAction.org.

Food Donation Shopping Guide

Donations of food are always needed and welcomed. When you shop for Angels of Action, think about what you would have on hand for a quick after school snack, or in a bag for a picnic lunch. These types of items are exactly what we are looking for.

We ask that you choose items that are:

- Nutritious, kid-friendly
- Shelf-stable
- Individually packaged or small enough to carry
- Easy to prepare even without a stove or can opener

Some ideas include:

- Microwave popcorn
- Cereal (small boxes or bowls)
- Oatmeal packets
- Granola bars
- Microwaveable servings (like Chef Boyardee®)
- Canned vegetables and fruits
- Soups
- Macaroni and cheese
- Peanut butter
- Canned or vacuum packed tuna or chicken

A more complete shopping list is available on our website, AngelsOfAction.org.



3,914 students in Mecosta County are eligible for free or reduced lunch. That is 59.5% of all K-12 students.

Source: Kid Count Data Center 2010