



Feeding Kids One Pack At A Time.

P.O. Box 18025  
Golden, CO 80402

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

## Golden Backpack Program Update October, 2012

### Food Distribution So Far

Currently we are delivering 492 sacks full of food to eight local schools on a weekly basis, compared with 505 this time last year. As with last year, we are seeing an increase in numbers every week. As of 10/14, the break out is as follows:

- Golden High School -19 sacks
- Bell Middle School – 23 sacks
- Connections Learning Center – 20 sacks
- Kyffin Elementary – 33 sacks
- Shelton Elementary – 50 sacks
- Mitchell Elementary – 30 sacks
- Pleasant View Elementary – 202 sacks
- Welchester Elementary – 115 sacks

To date, we have already delivered 3,187 sacks of food to hungry Golden students!

### Financials

The fundraising goal for this fiscal year (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013) is \$75,000. That amount assumes an average rate of 550 kids per week receiving sacks of food throughout the school year. To date, we have already raised \$32,000 for which we are all deeply appreciative.

Received to Date: \$32,000  
Amount Left to Goal of \$75k: \$43,000  
Spent to Date: \$26,586.87  
Carryover from Prior Years: \$26,800

Tony Leffort, Director of Fundraising, is focusing his efforts on engaging local businesses in our cause this year. Thanks to his hard work, we have already received \$3,491.20 from businesses this school year. This is a big improvement from last year, where donations from businesses totaled \$1,500 for the entire school year. Tony's goal from business this school year is \$25,000 which will be focussed on extending the GBP through the summer.

Additionally, we have been fortunate to receive the following grants recently:

- The Rotary International Foundation, through District 5450, awarded the GBP a District Simplified Grant of \$2,500
- The Community Service Committee of the Golden Rotary provided matching funds of \$2,500
- Sam's Club gave us a \$2,000 grant
- The Jefferson County Good News Coalition gave us a \$1,000 grant

## Ralston Elementary

Thanks to the efforts of the Community Outreach Team at Ralston Elementary, students are again raising money and collecting food for the GBP. Each month a specific grade is focusing on collecting 600 of one specific item of food that we include in our sacks. This month, fourth graders are working to collect 15.5 oz. cans of fruit.

Last year, Ralston students and families collected over 1,000 pounds of food and over \$1,000 so we are grateful to have their help again this year.

## Volunteer Appreciation Event

The GBP hosted a volunteer appreciation event at Rolling Hills Country Club on September 13. Attendees were treated to coffee, tea, appetizers and a cash bar was available. It was a great opportunity for volunteers to get to know one another and exchange ideas regarding backpacks.

Peggy Halderman presented Pleasant View Elementary volunteer Judy Cline (below, center) with our first annual "Volunteer of the Year" award: a black apron with a gold GBP logo.



Judy has volunteered for the GBP for more than four years. Every week, Judy helps to unload, sort, and distribute more than 200 sacks of food.

Thanks to everyone who attended, and we look forward to celebrating again next year!

## Volunteers Needed

We currently have two key volunteer opportunities available:

- Volunteer Daily Operations Manager -- This person serves as the focal point between our schools, our community, volunteers, our volunteer food ordering manager, and our partners at DDRRC. In short, this is a key position in our organization and has the responsibility to make it all happen. The individual in this position gathers weekly numbers from the schools of those who need food and communicates that info to the part of the team that orders the food and the allergy food replacements as well as to the folks who pack the weekly sacks of food, and delivers them to the schools. The individual is also the focal point for working with schools to connect volunteers in support of the schools' work to connect kids and food.
- Volunteer Special Events Coordinator -- This individual would be responsible for coordinating two events each year, one celebrating the volunteers who make all this possible and another celebrating the corporations and individuals who provide the funds that allow us to purchase food for the kids, keeping in mind the need to be sensitive and economical in these events.

If you would like more information about either of these positions, or if you know someone who you think would be willing to help out, please contact Peggy Halderman at [pjhalderman@comcast.net](mailto:pjhalderman@comcast.net)

### **Faith Lutheran Snack Sacks**

Over the summer the kids at Faith Lutheran assembled 485 snack sacks for the GBP. Ray and Sher Printz (pictured below with Peggy Halderman) helped deliver the sacks, and now they are being distributed to kids at Pleasant View Elementary.



Stories and expressions of thanks will be forthcoming soon.

### **Stories from the Backpack**

From Pleasant View Elementary:

Dear Golden Backpack Program:

*"Thank you" does not do justice to the feelings of gratitude I have for you! Your program ensures that over 200 of my students had food to eat every weekend, as well as during the summer. This allows our students to come to school prepared to learn and succeed.*

Janace Fischer

Principal at Pleasant View Elementary

From Bell Middle School:

*"We had an 8th grader who was just a really at risk kiddo. Every time he got a bag, he would be sooooo thankful, saying how much he appreciated it and smiling. It was one of the only times a day we would see him smile."*

Christy Belmear

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Bell Middle School