

Dear Friends of the Food Bank of Siouxland,

Soon, we will be launching our 18th year of the Backpack Program: *Food for Kids* and we're looking for volunteer groups to help assemble food sacks! You are receiving this email because you have either volunteered in the past or you have expressed interest in getting a group involved.

The total number of Siouxland area elementary schools served is 11. We expect to assemble up to 2,400 food sacks each week for the following participating schools: in Sioux City - Bryant, Hunt, Irving, Leeds, Liberty, Loess Hills, Riverside, and Unity; in South Sioux City - Harney and Lewis & Clark; and in Marcus - MMCRU Schools.

We are hoping you will consider lending a helping hand. As a small staff, we know we will need the support and assistance of volunteer groups in our community. This can be a great opportunity to get adult or youth groups, church groups, school, business or sports groups involved and offer an opportunity to help feed children who might otherwise go hungry over the weekend.

Important Information:

- Scheduling for both the ***Fall and Spring Semesters*** will be done on **the last Monday in August, August 28, 2023.**

SPECIAL NOTICE:

- Groups are limited to **ONE volunteer session per semester** (TWO total volunteer sessions for the academic year, one each in fall and spring semesters)
- Groups **WILL** be scheduled for the following timeframe:
 - **Fall Semester:** September 25, 2023 – December 13, 2023
 - **Spring Semester:** February 5, 2024 – April 24, 2024
- We will **NOT** schedule groups for the entire months of **January 2024 and May 2024**
- We schedule 3 different volunteer groups per week only Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- ***Notice: Groups may schedule ONE volunteer session per semester***
- Please have dates in mind when you sign up
- Groups can schedule anytime in between 10:00 am – 6:30 pm
- Group size needs to be 10-15 people expecting to fill around 700 sacks

SAVE THE DATE

Volunteer Sign-up

Last Monday of August – August 28, 2023 @ 8:30 AM

Via Phone or Email

call: 712-255-9741 ext. 5 email: tiffany@siouxlandfoodbank.org

Slots fill quickly on a first come, first served basis!

If you can help feed Siouxland's children in need, sign-up your group by calling or emailing Tiffany Kissinger on Monday, August 28, 2023!

Please see next page.

Key factors we've implemented during the scheduling process:

- Due to high demand and popularity of the Backpack Program Volunteer Opportunity, we will initially limit the number of times a group may sign up to **ONE time per semester** for a total of *TWO times per academic year*. We want to make sure all groups have an opportunity to be involved.
- If your group would like to volunteer more than ONCE a semester and there are still openings after everyone has had a fair chance to sign up, we will reopen the schedule to groups wanting more dates. Please let Tiffany know upon sign up if your group wants to be considered for more dates.
- Sign up only occurs on the set date and specific time and on a first come, first served basis. Groups will not be allowed to sign up before August 28, 2023 at 8:30 am. All requests will be answered in order upon the time stamp of the phone call, voicemail, or email.
- Please review the Volunteer Agreement sheet (attached), sign and return to me before Monday, August 28, 2023 if possible. This does not guarantee your volunteer spot, but it does allow the sign-up process to go more smoothly and gives me a heads up that your group is interested.
- Please check with your group before signing up for dates and times (Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays starting late September through April, excluding January and May).

Please feel free to share this call out for volunteers with other groups in the community you think might be willing to help. If you have any questions about either the Backpack Program or scheduling a volunteer group, please do not hesitate to contact me. I hope to hear from you soon!