



“Food For Thought” Weekend Program

Dear Friends,

Did you know that rural poverty is at an all time high? Hunger comes in many different shapes, sizes, colors, and situations. Many District 740 students go without food for the entire weekend when they are away from school. If you were aware that there were 100 students in District 740 going without food for the weekend, would you or your organization be willing to donate toward this need? Food For Thought is a non-profit weekend food backpack program for children in need in District 740, which serves the following communities: St. Rosa, Freeport, Greenwald, St. Martin, Grey Eagle, Melrose, Spring Hill, and New Munich. Starting in October food packets will be sent home each Friday during the school year to participating students. This program was created through a collaborative effort with the Sauk Centre Weekend Backpack Program. However, for the upcoming school year this program will be run through each local community.

We are writing to ask you to support this program this year with a donation to our annual fundraising campaign. Each year, the program assists children in our community, and without donations from individuals like you, this would not be possible. Donations help sustain our program and benefit the children and families in which we serve. The donations would cover the cost of the food items that are purchased for this weekly program. The cost per pupil per month is \$20.00. This would amount to \$90.00 for half the school year and \$180.00 for the entire school year. We realize there is a need beyond the elementary school level. As donations increase our hope would be to expand this program and to be able to reach students at our Area Learning Center, Middle School, and High School as well.

Representatives from the Food For Thought Program will be visiting or contacting your local business in the next few weeks to collect donations. **Checks** should be made out to **Birch Hills Community Church** with **Food for Thought** written on the memo line. You can mail directly to **Birch Hills Community Church, PO box 308, Melrose, MN 56352** or you may give electronically at **Central Minnesota Credit Union: Routing Number 291974204 account number 1200000089945**. In addition if you would like to stay informed on the development of Food For Thought Program, check out the website at <http://www.foodforthought-melrose.weebly.com>.

Another way your business can support the program is to become a part of the packing process on "Packing Nights". If your business is willing, we would love to have you join us to assemble our monthly food packs. A group size of 15-20 people could pack the bags in about an hour. Questions and scheduling information can be addressed by emailing foodforthoughtmelrose@gmail.com.

Thank you for considering to support this community building program! If you have any further questions email them to foodforthoughtmelrose@gmail.com.

Respectfully Yours,

Vaughn Glasener
Food For Thought Team member