

NOVEMBER 2024

*Working To End Juvenile Food & Hygiene
Insufficiency One Weekend Bag At A Time!*



The Weekend Bag Program, Inc.
BEYOND THE BAG

We at the Weekend Bag Program Inc., are proud of the partnerships we have formed with programs and organizations throughout the county that allow us to make an impact "Beyond the Bag." Check out this amazing email we received from Nicole, the Transition Coordinator at Jefferson Township High School, one of the transition programs we work with in Sussex County Schools! Thank you Nicole for your kind words and for all you and your students do for The Weekend Bag Program, Inc.!

I was exposed to the Weekend Bag Program when my young adults from Jefferson Twp High School worked at AG Choice. AG Choice had partnered with The Weekend Bag Program to offer a quiet space for young adults with sensory and specific needs to work at their own pace.

The program I run introduces young adults to the workforce and we evaluate the success which helps us make recommendations for programs/employment opportunities once they leave High School. The students I had working at AG Choice with the Weekend bag program were my students that would need greater assistance when it comes to employment and I was learning what skills they possess. Through the weekend bag program, I saw skills and strengths in my young adults that I did not know they possessed. The tasks involved in the weekend bag program were perfect for them. The tasks allowed them to operate at their own space, allowed them to complete the tasks in any way they wanted to with getting to the same end goal and ultimately through making a visual checklist the students were able to complete these tasks almost 100% independently which gave them such a sense of pride! They look at the weekend bag program as their project and are delighted when they complete all 35 bags.

This current school year we stopped going to AG Choice and I struggled with finding more tasks similar to the ones the weekend bag program offered. I contacted AG Choice and asked for the contact information for The Weekend Bag Program because I knew I wanted to work with them again. Dawn was the sweetest person to talk to and we found a way to keep my students involved that worked for everyone.

We love the work we do for the Weekend Bag, every volunteer we have interacted with has been such a pleasure and joy, we even upped the number of bags we do because the students were doing so well, and it's really a win-win for everyone. I hope to continue this partnership with The Weekend bag Program and see how much we can accomplish working together.

**November
Dates to
Remember**

- **11/17** Stuff the Van @ Weis Markets (Franklin & Newton)
- **11/16/24** - Frankford Township School PTA Tricky Tray
- **11/30** Holiday Pictures for a Cause (Coldwell Banker Realty, Augusta Office)

Contact Us
1-833-KIDSBAG

weekendbagprogram.org

theweekendbagprogram@gmail.com

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on the mailing
list & receive the
digital monthly
newsletter



Opportunities to Support The Weekend Bag Program Inc. in November

Bentley Assisted Living Donation Drive (Month of November)

Date: Entire month of November

Place: Bentley Assisted Living
3 Phillips Road
Branchville, NJ 07826

Details: During the month of November, our friends at Bentley Assisted Living will be collecting items for The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. Anyone in the area is welcome to drop donations off to contribute to their drive. Thank you Bentley Assisted Living for your continued support!

Let's Help



The Weekend Bag
Program Inc

Working To End Juvenile Food
Insufficiency One Weekend Bag At A Time!

The Weekend Bag Program Inc. is a kid
founded and run 501(c)3 nonprofit created
to provide students going home from
school over the weekend with food and
hygiene they otherwise wouldn't have.



What We Need

Pasta & No Glass Sauce - Canned Foods

Shampoo - Soap - Deodorant - Toothpaste

Toothbrushes - Individually Wrapped Snacks

Instant Oatmeal - Etc.



at Branchville

Drop off during the
month of November at:

3 Phillips Road
Branchville, NJ 07826
973-948-8884



Frankford Township School PTA

NOV. 16.24

PREVIEW

Tricky Tray

New this year...
~ Location
~ Pre-sale admissions
~ Tables for up to
10 guests

Sussex County Fair Grounds - Richards Building
37 Plains Road, Augusta, New Jersey

**4 Prize Levels, Games, 50/50,
Gift Card Apron & MORE!**

Pre-Sale Admission Package Options*:

Package A - \$30 Includes:
- Admission to the Event
- 4 Regular Prize Level Sheets (25 tickets per sheet)
- 1 Special Prize Level Sheet (25 tickets per sheet)
- 2 Super Special Prize Level Tickets

Package B - \$50 Includes:
- Admission to the Event
- 6 Regular Prize Level Sheets (25 tickets per sheet)
- 2 Special Prize Level Sheet (25 tickets per sheet)
- 2 Super Special Prize Level Tickets
- 1 Mega Prize Level Ticket
- 1 Plinko Chip

Package C - \$75 Includes:
- Admission to the Event
- 9 Regular Prize Level Sheets (25 tickets per sheet)
- 2 Special Prize Level Sheet (25 tickets per sheet)
- 4 Super Special Prize Level Tickets
- 2 Mega Prize Level Ticket
- 3 Plinko Chips

*These packages are PRE-SALE ONLY, available for purchase (ordered & paid) now through 11/14/24 while supplies last. These will not be available at our event.

Pre-Sale

- Doors Open: 5:00 PM
- Calling Begins: 7:30 PM

- General Admission: \$5.00 or donation(s) to The Weekend Bag Program Inc. of much needed items from the list below. With donation(s) you'll receive a ticket to enter for a chance to win their EXCLUSIVE prize, at The Weekend Bag Program Inc. table!



- Pasta Sauce (no glass)
- Pasta noodles
- Can Vegetable
- Chef Boy Ardee
- Tuna (can pouch)
- Shampoo - Conditioner
- Bodywash - Deodorant
- Toothpaste

- Food Concessions
We will have 3 Food Trucks this year available to handle your hunger, your thirst and even food runners to make sure you are able to get get back to the action quickly! A donation will come back to FTS PTA from every sale!

More info: ftspta.fundraising@gmail.com
* No one under 18 will be permitted

Frankford Tricky Tray November 16th

Date: November 16, 2024

Time: Doors Open @ 5. Calling begins 7:30

Cost: \$5 / person OR donation to The Weekend Bag Program, Inc.

Place: Sussex County Fair Grounds in The Richards Building

Details: Anyone who brings a a dontation for The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. will recieve a ticket to enter an exclusive tray!

Opportunities to Support The Weekend Bag Program Inc. in November

Stuff the Van @ Weis Markets November 17 th

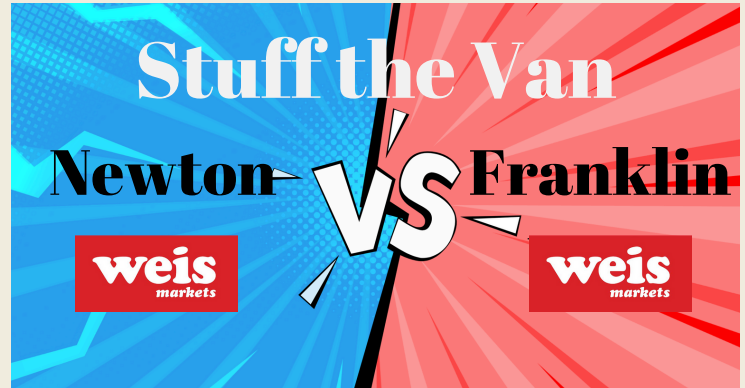
Date: November 17, 2024

Time: 9AM-4PM

Place: Weis Markets in Franklin
Weis Markets in Newton

Details: The Battle of the Weis Stores is back! The Newton Weis and Franklin Weis Markets will be competing in a simultaneous Stuff the Van event! The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. will be at both locations collecting donations.

Whichever location collects the largest number of donated items wins the most coveted bragging rights in all the land! You can join in the fun by stopping by either location and drop an item or two in the van!



Pasta Noodles	Pasta Sauce	Canned Soup
Chef BoyArdee	Mac n Cheese	Fruit Cup
Canned Tuna	Canned Vegetable	Ramen
Boxes Cereal	Case of Water	Juice Box
Gatorade	Individual cookies & Snacks	

Shampoo	Conditioner	Body Wash
Bar Soap	Toothpaste.	Tooth Brush
Single Roll	Toilet Paper	Pocket Tissue
	Deodorant	



Opportunities to Support The Weekend Bag Program Inc. in November

Holiday Pictures for a Cause

Date: November 30, 2024

Time: 11 AM - 3 PM

Cost: Suggested Donation: \$25 for a 15 - minute photo session

Place: Coldwell Banker Realty, Augusta Office (47 Route 206, Suite 2, Augusta NJ 07822)

Details: The SC Group of Coldwell Banker is hosting an amazing event to give back this holiday season! Join us for a festive photo session, and help us support The Weekend Bag Program Inc. It costs just \$25 to create one Weekend Bag and with your donation, we'll be able to help even more families this holiday season. Sign up via link below:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/?#!/showSignUp/10COA4BADAA2DA2F8C07-53241665-pictures>



Volunteer Opportunity



We are looking for volunteers to join our core volunteer team. This fun, energetic, organized group of folks help run the day to day business of the program from planning fundraising events and drives, to managing communications, inventory, and budgets. The need for weekend bags has gone up significantly since last school year and we are determined to send home a weekend bag with **every** student who needs one. However, since the need among Sussex County students has increased, so has our need for volunteers! ***We can't do this without our village!*** Not only will you be making the difference in the lives of young people in our community, but you'll find that when you're part of this team, ***you're part of a family!***

If you are interested in joining our team, or would like more information please email us at theweekendbagprogram@gmail.com or call us at 1-833-KIDSBAG.



Tuesday Evening Bag Packing

Bag deliveries start this month!

Each week we pack approximately 200+ bags on Tuesday evenings at our warehouse, to be delivered to the schools on our list. From there, they find their way into the hands of students who need them for the weekend. Packing the bags is a crucial part of The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. and as the saying goes, “many hands make light work.”

We always welcome new volunteers (individuals or groups) to help assemble bags for the weekends. If you or your group would like to get on the calendar to volunteer to help pack bags on a Tuesday evening, please email us at **theweekendbagprogram@gmail.com**

or call us at

1-833-KIDSBAG

This is a great team building opportunity for clubs, groups, offices/businesses, but also a great opportunity for individual community/volunteer service hours!



Participating Schools

2024 - 2025 School Year

The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. currently runs in 19 schools throughout Sussex County for the 2024-2025 school year.

If you (or someone you know) has a student in need of a weekend bag to take home, please contact us or your school's administration so we can put you in touch with your school's liaison.

If your school is not on the list of participating schools, please either bring it to the school's attention OR reach out to us so we can collaborate with the school administration to implement The Weekend Bag Program, Inc at your school.

Hopatcong Norwescap Head Start/Early Learning (pre-school)

Wantage Norwescap Head Start/Early Learning (pre-school)

Merriam Avenue Pre-School

Green Hills School

Merriam Avenue Elementary School

Halsted Middle School

Long Pond Middle School

Florence M Burd Elementary School

Sussex County Charter School for Technology

Sussex County Technical High School

Hamburg Borough School

Montague Township Elementary School

Hardyston Township Middle School

Hardyston Township Elementary School

Ogdensburg Borough School

Kittatinny Regional High School

Marian E. McKeown Elementary School

Wallkill Valley Regional High School

Sandyston Walpak Elementary School

Alpine Elementary School

Mohawk Elementary School

Helen Morgan Elementary School

Sparta Middle School

Sparta High School

Then & Now

2023-2024

School Year

(10/04/23-10/25/23)

Total Weekend Bags

591

VS

2024-2025

School Year

(10/09/24-10/30/24)

Total Weekend Bags

939

Total Weekend Bags

+348

The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. Youth Council



*You've heard us say that The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. is “**kid founded and kid run.**” We take great pride in these two truths, and it is what inspires the adults involved to continue to support and empower the young people involved. However, as the Costello girls grow and head off into the world to forge their own paths it is important to them that the Weekend Program Inc., continue to be youth focused and run by students in Sussex County.*

*Introducing **The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. Youth Council.** This council of young adults will hold leadership roles in the day to day operations of The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. Members of the Youth Council will make decisions for the program, attend public speaking events where they will represent the program, helping to spread the mission of the program. Youth Council members will communicate with local governments, schools, businesses, etc. on a regular basis regarding The Weekend Bag Program, Inc.*

We are inviting high school and college aged students to apply to serve on this council. This role carries an opportunity to develop your leadership skills, your business skills, public speaking skills, organization skills, people skills and networking skills. You will have the opportunity to work side by side with change making adults in the community, learning from them and networking with them. The volunteer hours you will accumulate will add to your resume and college applications.

But the biggest benefit of all is that you will have the opportunity to make a direct impact on the lives of young people in our county. You will help fight juvenile food and hygiene insecurity firsthand.

If you're interested in more information, please contact us at

theweekendbagprogram@gmail.com

(833)-KIDSBAG

We look forward to hearing from you!

DONATE

Monetary Donations

Monetary donations are greatly appreciated and will allow us to purchase specific items that we need at any moment.

You can make monetary donations either by check made out to: The Weekend Bag Program Inc. and mailed to THE WEEKEND BAG PROGRAM INC. PO Box 205, Andover Nj 07821.

Or by clicking on one of the donate buttons below!

Donate (Paypal)



Donate (Venmo)



Product Donations

Send product donations by purchasing items off of any of the below Amazon wishlists. Make sure you select the address "The Weekend Bag Program Inc's Gift Registry Address" when it asks you which shipping address to send it to and it will come directly to us

SNACK LIST



MEAL LIST



HYGIENE LIST



If you purchased products that you want to donate, please contact us @ theweekendbagprogram@gmail.com
(833)-KIDSBAG

and we can schedule a drop-off or answer any questions.

Items we Accept

(No Glass Bottles)

Non-Perishables

- Soups (Cup/Can)
- Cereal (Box/Cup)
- Fruit Snacks
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Juice & Water Bottles
- Mac & Cheese
- Granola Bars
- Tuna & Ramen
- Chef Boyardee
- Applesauce Cup
- Individual snacks (chips/cookies)

Hygiene Items

- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Body Soap
- Toilet Paper (Single Roll)
- Conditioner
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush (single)
- Tissue (Travel Size)
- Laundry Soap



Partner With US

Partner with us!

The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. could not possibly continue to run without the support of our amazing and dedicated sponsors. These partners support us in a variety of ways on a regular basis by donating their resources, time, and support to ensure that students in Sussex County continue to have access to food and hygiene on the weekends through The Weekend Bag Program, Inc.

If your organization would like to partner with us in fighting food and hygiene insecurity among young people of Sussex County by making recurring monetary or item donations, please call or email us at



The Weekend Bag Program, Inc.

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Weekend Bag Program, Inc. Officers

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Founder

Magdalen Costello
President

Olivia Costello
CEO

Youth Council

COMING SOON!

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