

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



Spring into Clean Laundry Detergent Drive



March 1-20

A full sized container of laundry detergent is included in weekend bags once a month. Currently, we are in need of laundry soap to fulfill this need for the remainder of the school year. As part of our “Spring Into Clean” drive, we are asking for \$5 donations to help us purchase these items.

If you are able to contribute towards our goal of 1455 laundry detergents, please see below for venmo details. Let us know it’s for the “Spring Into Clean” drive when you send it.



<https://venmo.com/u/Weekendbagprogram>

scan

Stuff the Van Competition Between



Newton vs Franklin

Our friends at Weis Markets are at it again! Which location will have the largest donation drive? Newton or Franklin?

Stop by either location on the following dates between 9am - 4pm to help us Stuff the Van!

February 23
March 16
April 13

Contact Us
1-833-KIDSBAG

weekendbagprogram.org
theweekendbagprogram@gmail.com

Follow us on:
[Instagram](#)
[Facebook](#)

Scan here to get on the mailing list & receive the digital monthly newsletter



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.



Monday & Tuesday Evening Bag Packing

Each week we assemble approximately 250+ bags 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!

We are also in need of shift managers to help facilitate these evenings and groups! If you're interested please email us!

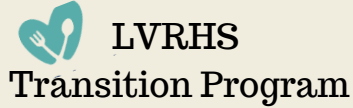


The Weekend Bag, Program reaches BEYOND THE BAG

The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. has grown not only to help our students who are experiencing food and hygiene insecurity, but is now being sought out by many transition programs who serve students with cognitive and other learning disabilities, as a place for them to build on life skills and participate in helping their community. The Weekend Bag Program Inc has partnered with the following transition programs :



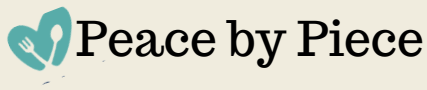
NHS Achieve



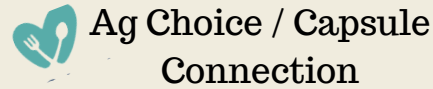
**LVRHS
Transition Program**



**Jefferson Township
HS Step Up**



Peace by Piece



**Ag Choice / Capsule
Connection**

"...Peace by Piece and their members are so proud to be working side by side with The Weekend Bag Program... Each week, the members of Peace by Piece assemble 50 bags of groceries and other necessities, then deliver them to the warehouse of the [The Weekend Bag Program, Inc]. These grocery bags are distributed on Fridays to school children in our community that have parents who are struggling with the high cost of food. This is a mutually beneficial opportunity to not only help the ones in need, but also to empower the members at Peace by Piece that have intellectual/developmental disabilities. The Peace by Piece members recognize how vital this effort is, and that no child should ever go hungry when school is out of session. Our members have many activities to choose from throughout the day, however we have an overwhelming number of us that wish to help the WBP. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of [this] very noble organization.

*Very truly yours,
Michael*



The Weekend Bag Program, Inc. volunteer Karen and members of Peach by Piece pack bags at the warehouse

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

Lafayette Township School

The Weekend Bag Program,
Inc currently operates in:

-21 out of the 45 public
schools in Sussex County

-1 charter school

-3 pre-schools

Then & Now

**January
2024**

**Total Weekend Bags
Distributed**

803

VS

**January
2025**

**Total Weekend Bags
Distributed**

1,054

**251
more weekend
bags distributed**

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!



How Can You Help?



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

Most Needed Items

Pasta Noodles (*any shape*)

Pasta Sauce (*no glass*)

Canned Vegetables

Box Mac n Cheese

Applesauce and

Individual Snack items

(*chips, crackers, cookies*)

Shampoo

Conditioner

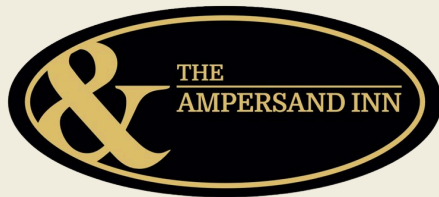
Deodorant

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, product, or service donations, please call or email us to see how you can get involved.



Special Thanks

We want to give special thanks to our partners who provide us with services that are essential for The Weekend Bag Program, Inc to operate!



Thank you PLANET NETWORKS for the use of your warehouse to organize & store products, and for providing a place for us to assemble the weekend bags!



Thank you TEYMA for volunteering your drivers and vehicles to deliver bags to schools on a weekly basis! Also for allowing us to use you vans often for Stuff the Van events! Thank you also for donating space in your building for us to use as our headquarters.



The Weekend Bag Program, Inc.

Executive Board

Weekend Bag Program, Inc. Officers

Isobel Costello
Founder

Magdalen Costello
President

Olivia Costello
CEO

Youth Council

COMING SOON!

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Secretary/Treasurer/Administrator

Javier Gomez
President of Teyma General Contractors LLC

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CEO of Planet Networks

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& Sexual Assault Intervention Services*

Kimberly Williams
Community Development Director, Newton NJ