Dear Friends,

At the end of each school day, Sarah carries a secret: There's not enough food at home. A growling tummy makes it hard to concentrate on school work or get a good night's sleep.

Like many families in southeast Missouri, Sarah's family is hurting. A lack of jobs, rising food prices and healthcare costs have left her parents struggling to make ends meet, sometimes unable to even put food on the table.

Fortunately, when Sarah leaves school on Friday she carries another secret: a backpack of wholesome food. This discreet package of food provides Sarah with meals for the weekend and helps hide the secret shame of hunger.

Southeast Missouri, where one in 5 children lives in a home without enough food, has some of the highest rates of child hunger in the state. We think every child deserves access to enough nutritious food to help them grow, and we're asking for your help. _____ School District is participating in our Backpacks for Friday program and would appreciate your help to expand the program to serve needy kids in the district.

For $175 you can provide a child in your district with a backpack of nutritious food each Friday for the 36 weeks of the school year. We hope you will help provide multiple children with weekend food for the school year, simply use the form below and return it to your school district's Backpacks for Friday coordinator, _____.

Please partner with us in the fight against hunger in your community by helping children like Sarah focus on learning and growing into stronger, healthier and productive citizens.

With much gratitude,

Laveta Williams,
Program Coordinator

Please complete the following & return with your donation to FIRST NAME, LAST NAME at SCHOOL NAME:

Yes! I want to be a "Backpacks for Friday" sponsor!

___ $175 to feed one child for the entire school year.

___ $_____ to feed _____ children for the school year.

___ $_____ to provide weekend food to students.

Name/Company_____

Contact_____

Phone_____

Email_____

Address_____

City/State/ZIP_____