

# FOOD BANK



OF SIOUXLAND INC.

1313 11<sup>th</sup> Street · P.O. Box 985 · Sioux City, IA 51102 · phone: 712-255-9741 · fax: 712-255-3116 · www.siouxlandfoodbank.org

Dear Friends of the Food Bank of Siouxland,

Please let me introduce myself. My name is Tiffany Kissinger and I am the new Program and Administrative Coordinator at the Food Bank of Siouxland. You may have worked with Debbie Hubbard in the past and I have stepped into her position due to her retirement this spring. I am the new coordinator for the **BackPack Program: Food for Kids**. Soon, we will be launching our THIRTEENTH YEAR of the BackPack Program and we're looking for volunteer groups to help assemble food sacks!

## **Your help is needed more than ever!**

Last year, we were able to add one school and this year we are adding one more bringing the total number of area elementary schools served to TEN. We expect to assemble up to 2,250 food sacks each week for the participating schools: in Sioux City - Bryant, Hunt, Irving, Leeds, Liberty, Loess Hills, Riverside, and Unity AND in South Sioux City - Harney and Lewis & Clark.

We are hoping you will consider lending a helping hand. As a very 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, or sports groups involved and offer an opportunity to help feed hungry children.

As in the past, we schedule three different volunteer groups per week. Group size needs to be **10-15 people expecting to fill around 650+ sacks**. The work will be done in our warehouse. The typical schedule will call for assembly on Monday, Tuesday, and/or Wednesday, either during the workday or in the evening depending upon the wishes of each group of volunteers.

Attached are the **Volunteer Guidelines** which will provide additional details about the work we are doing. The "leader" or contact person for your group will **need to sign and return this form on behalf of the group**. Please make sure to share the guidelines with others in your group prior to volunteering.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

### **Volunteer Sign-up:**

**Begins at 8:30 AM via phone call**

**Tuesday, September 4, 2018**

**(the day after Labor Day)**

**Slots fill quickly on a first come, first serve basis!**

**If you can help feed Siouxland's hungry children, sign-up your group by calling Tiffany at 712-255-9741 on Tuesday, September 4!**

***"Leading Siouxland in the fight against hunger."***

Food Bank of Siouxland, Inc. is a proud Distribution Partner of Feeding America.

A couple things we've learned over the years during scheduling:

- We will initially limit the number of times a group may sign up during the school year to 4-6 times to make sure all groups have an opportunity to be involved. However, it is OK to only sign up for one date. If 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 review your volunteer guidelines sheet (attached), sign and return to me before Tuesday, September 4, 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 calling to sign up for dates and times (Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays during October through mid-May) or availability (example: Tuesdays evenings, but not Mondays).
- For Tuesday, September 4: I cannot accept specific reservations through email or voicemail. If I'm on the other line when you call, please leave your name and phone number and I will quickly return phone calls in the order I receive them.

**Please feel free to share this call for volunteers with others 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!

Gratefully,

Tiffany Kissinger  
Program and Administrative Coordinator