

**Making Kane County Fit for Kids
Fit Kids 2020 Plan Implementation Call for Projects
2019 Application**

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Project Name: BackPack Program

Project Location: Kane County

Applicant Name: Northern Illinois Food Bank

Applicant Address: 273 Dearborn Court

City, State, Zip: Geneva, IL 60134

Contact Name and Title: Hester Bury, Director of Foundations and Grants

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Fax: (630) 443 - 6916

E-mail: hbury@northernilfoodbank.org

Project Period: June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020

PROJECT FUNDING

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Total cost of project identified above: | <u>\$31,500</u> |
| 2. Total funds available (or to be secured) from other sources: | <u>\$30,625</u> |
| 3. Amount requested from Making Kane County Fit for Kids: | <u>\$7,875</u> |

Attach a budget for the project. Include all project expenses and funding sources. Indicate the status of each funding source (i.e. yet to apply, application pending, funding committed, etc.).

FIT FOR KIDS GRANT PROJECT GOALS GRID AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Summary: *(Provide a general statement explaining the problem/opportunity the project will address and identify the benefits of implementing the project)* Northern Illinois Food Bank is requesting funding to provide new wheeled backpacks for 500 children in Kane County so that we can provide food for them to take home for the weekend throughout the school year.

Target Population of your organization and project Children at risk of hunger in Kane County

Project Goal(s)

	Methods or process to reach your goal	How will you know you met your goal? Measures and data collected
<p>This project is intended to provide access to nutritious food for children at risk of hunger on weekends, so they can return to school on Mondays ready to learn and not distracted by hunger.</p> <p>In Kane County we will work with 44 schools to distribute weekly backpacks to at least 500 children.</p>	<p>The Food Bank will purchase 2,000 new wheeled backpacks for the school year program. 500 will be used in Kane County.</p>	<p>The Food Bank tracks the number of backpacks delivered weekly at each participating school, based on number of children identified by school coordinators.</p>
	<p>School staff will identify families to participate in the Backpack program and obtain parental permission.</p>	<p>School coordinators report monthly to confirm the number distributed and share any feedback on the impact of the program on children.</p>
	<p>Each child identified by school staff will receive a new backpack when enrolled in the program. Each week the Food Bank will deliver bags of food to the schools and staff will insert the food in the backpack. Each child returns the empty backpack on Mondays to be re-filled the following week.</p>	<p>Parents and children are invited to complete a survey at the end of the school year to share the impact of receiving the weekly backpacks of food on their child’s academic, physical and emotional behavior.</p>

(Each goal will have at least one method and measure. Expand the grid and add more boxes to the table if needed)

In addition to completing the grid above, please provide short answers to the questions below.

Project Questions

1. Provide a detailed description of your project/program, including the target population and geographic area it will serve.

Teachers, social workers, and lunchroom staff are often the first to notice the signs of chronic hunger in the children they interact with each day. Extreme hunger on Monday mornings, eating quickly, saving or hoarding food, or directly communicating a lack of food at home are some of the signs that our school partners notice among their students. The Food Bank collaborates with caring adults at 44 schools in Kane County to identify children and enroll their families in the Backpack Program so that children can be nourished on the weekend and return to school ready to learn without the distraction of hunger.

The Backpack Program uses a three-week menu rotation to ensure variety and each menu is based on USDA MyPlate Guidelines, providing foods from five food groups that are shelf-stable and child-friendly. Every week, volunteers pack shelf stable 1% milk, whole grain cereal and pasta or rice, canned fruits and vegetables, and protein items like legumes, canned tuna or chicken into bags for school partners to insert in reusable wheeled backpacks. Food Bank drivers deliver food to participating schools each week. Children take home the backpacks on the weekend and bring them back to school to be refilled on Mondays.

2. Describe the applicant's experience in the administration of this or similar projects/programs, including the qualifications of personnel that will be directly involved in the management of this project/program.

Northern Illinois Food Bank has implemented the Backpack program since 2008, growing from serving 150 children the first year to our current service to a weekly average of 2,200 children in the 2018-19 school year. The Backpack Program is managed by Jessica Willis, Child Nutrition Manager. This includes onboarding new sites, training new site staff or volunteers, regular monitors, trouble shooting, and reporting. Jessica holds a B.S. in Nutrition and is Food Service Manager certified. All Child Nutrition programs are overseen by Jennifer Lamplough. Jen holds a BA and MBA, a Certificate of Professional Cooking, Master Certified Foodservice Executive (MCFE), and Food Service Sanitation Manager Certificate. She was instrumental in the development of the Nutrition Education Program at the food bank and has co-authored several cookbooks for the American Diabetes Association. Other Child Nutrition staff assist with the Backpack Program as needed.

Parental survey results indicate that while their child was participating in the Backpack Program:

- 56% noticed improvement in child behavior
- 72% reported child was hungry less often
- 44% noticed improvements in child academic performance

In addition anecdotal feedback from school coordinators, parents and children illustrate that this program is valuable in alleviating child hunger on weekends:

"It has alleviated some of the stress of the parents for providing food for their families. We have had a couple extreme cases with families coming from homelessness and trying to get back on their feet"

"The backpack makes their lives easier because they don't have to worry about food over the weekend. It makes a big difference for our families."

"With one child in particular, I've seen greater attention span on Mondays, hopefully, in part to the food this program provides."

"One child, who was new to the program the past 2 months, seeks me out in order to pick up her backpack. As a child who is unable to focus during the school day, she is able to now focus more and is responsible in taking her backpack home (and bringing the empty bag back)."

3. *Is this project/program a collaborative effort with other entities? If so, please elaborate.*

The Food Bank could not manage the BackPack Program without the collaboration with school staff who identify children at risk of hunger, obtain parental permission to receive the food, accept the food bags each week and distribute to children on Fridays. In Kane County we collaborate with 44 schools during the school year and 17 schools during the summer vacation. Please see attached list.

Organization Questions

1. *Briefly describe your organization and its history. Include website and/or Facebook page if applicable.*

Northern Illinois Food Bank's mission is to lead the northern Illinois community in solving hunger by providing nutritious meals to those in need through innovative programs and partnerships. Over the past thirty-six years we have built a strong and intricate network of partners working together to serve a persistent need for food assistance in our 13-county service area. The most current Map the Meal Gap study shows that one in twelve residents of our service area, including one in six children are food-insecure with a lack of access to enough nutritious food to lead an active, healthy life (Feeding America 2018). With the collaboration of more than 900 network members, **Northern Illinois Food Bank provides nutritious meals for more than 500,000 hungry neighbors every year and distributed almost 66 million meals in FY2018.** In Kane County we distributed 9.2 million meals through collaboration with 141 program partners.

Of the food we distribute 81% is donated by manufacturers and retailers; 8% is acquired through federal commodities and 11% is purchased. Our headquarters is located at our West Suburban Center in Geneva and we maintain a North Suburban Center in Lake County, a Northwest Center in Rockford and a South Suburban Center in Will County.

Our most recent survey of agencies and clients in our network showed that among food assistance clients, 77% report having to make hard choices between paying for food and paying for utilities; more than 60% report having to choose between food and medicine, rent

or transportation (Feeding America, Hunger Study 2014). By providing access to nutritious food at no cost, the food bank network relieves the stress for our neighbors of feeding their families and helps them maintain a secure and stable home.

Our primary program is the acquisition of food from more than 500 generous manufacturers and retailers that we distribute through local food assistance sites. Currently, we partner with more than 400 local retail stores, where either we or one of our members picks up food several times a week, recovering an average of three million pounds each month. Twenty-five food bank drivers cover 50,000 miles each month to pick up donated food from manufacturers and retailers and deliver to our network members.

Network members have access to our online shopping list Agency Express where they can browse the food bank's inventory in real time and place their order online, paying a shared maintenance fee averaging six cents a pound.

With more than 150,000 children in our service area facing hunger, ensuring they have access to nutritious food is a priority for the food bank. We reach the vast majority of children that we serve by feeding their families through our network members, where 36% of recipients are children. We also provide direct assistance through **After School Meals, Summer Meals, Weekend BackPacks and School-Based Pantries**. **In FY18, we provided 1.6 million meals to nourish hungry children to play, grow and learn to the best of their abilities.**

Our **Senior Grocery Box Program** delivers food boxes to 900 seniors each month. We conduct Senior Grocery Mobiles monthly. Our two **Mobile Pantry Trucks** make 30 visits each month to deliver meat, produce, bread, and non-perishables directly to neighbors in need in areas underserved by traditional pantries. In November and December, our **Holiday Meal Box Program** provides 30,000 boxes containing ingredients for a family meal for eight people, including a turkey, vegetables, and dessert, so our hungry neighbors can celebrate the holidays with a special meal.

Currently, 63% of the food that we distribute is classified under Feeding America's Foods to Encourage and includes fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, low-fat dairy and lean protein. Our **Milk2MyPlate** program delivers more than 18,000 gallons of fresh 1% milk each month directly to 54 member agencies, providing a vital source of calcium.

SNAP Outreach staff help low-income families' access federal benefits for food through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly the Food Stamp Program). This program provides more than nutrition assistance. When relieved of grocery bills, people are better able to pay for other basic necessities—rent or mortgages, medical expenses, utilities and transportation. SNAP Outreach efforts resulted in 1.3 million meals for northern Illinois residents.

We are a financially healthy organization with more than 6 months of operating reserves and 97% of our resources continue to go to our programs. We are grateful to have received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for the 15th year, which means that we "exceed industry standards and outperform most charities." Next year, we expect to be rated a 3-star charity due

to change in meal growth which is in line with our Strategic Plan and the needs of our communities. We are proud that we are closing the meal gap in Northern Illinois. We also enjoy a Platinum rating from Guidestar and the endorsement of the Better Business Bureau.

Website: www.SolveHungerToday.org

Facebook: www.Facebook/ilfoodbank

We are grateful to Kane County Fit for Kids for previous support of our Child Nutrition Programs bringing nutritious food to children at risk of hunger in Kane County and 12 other counties. Thank you for consideration of our grant proposal.

APPLICATION CHECKLISTS

In order to be considered for funding, applicants should submit a properly completed application form, the applicable questionnaire, and a variety of supporting documents, depending on the type of project or program proposed. A checklist of the required documents for each type of activity is provided below.

- Completed application, including project goals grid and questionnaire
- Project budget (itemize all project expenses and funding sources)
- Project timeline (attach a schedule for completing the project with key target completion dates listed)

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION

- Organization has already formally endorsed the Fit Kids 2020 Plan.
 Organization agrees to formally endorse Fit Kids 2020 Plan by October 1, 2019.

Applicant certifies that they have read and fully understand the guidelines that govern the Making Kane County Fit for Kids 2019 grant program. Applicant further certifies that all information furnished in/with this application is true and complete to the best of Applicant's knowledge and belief. If any information provided herein changes following the submission of this application, Applicant agrees to notify Fit for Kids, immediately. Applicant acknowledges that Fit for Kids may verify any information contained in/with this application, and submission of this application shall constitute Applicant's authorization for Fit for Kids to complete such verification as it deems necessary to determine the accuracy of this application and its suitability for funding. Applicant understands and agrees that if false information is provided in/with this application, which has the effect of increasing Applicant's advantage, Fit for Kids may disqualify this application and deem Applicant ineligible to receive any funds in the future. Applicant understands that Fit for Kids retains the right to reject any and all applications, and, in its sole determination, to waive minor irregularities. Applicant acknowledges by execution of this application that Fit for Kids will make such determinations with the fullest discretion allowable by law. Applicant will at all times indemnify and hold harmless Fit for Kids against all losses, costs, damages, expenses and liabilities of any nature directly or indirectly resulting from, arising out of, or relating to the Fit for Kids' acceptance, consideration, approval, or disapproval of this application and the issuance or non-issuance of funds herewith. Applicant further certifies that they do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, handicap or national origin; and that they are duly authorized by board resolution to cause this document to be executed.



Signature

Julie Yurko
Name (Printed)

5/20/19
Date

President & CEO
Title (Printed)



Northern Illinois Food Bank BackPack Program Budget FY 2020 2019-2020 Summer and School Year

Revenue

The revenue for this program will be provided by contributed donations from individuals, corporations and foundations designated specifically for the BackPack Program or for the Child Nutrition Program.

Expenses

Based on previous costs, we have developed the following budget to distribute a total of 75,849 backpacks full of nutritious food during the 2019 summer and 2019-20 school year.

Food	453,580
Backpacks (3,000 @ \$15.75)	\$47,250
Supplies	\$25,250
Personnel (admin)	\$25,589
Transportation	\$50,155
Total	\$602,724

The average cost is \$7.95 per backpack. We continue to identify ways to be frugal while delivering high quality food assistance programs and use donated food whenever available to keep food costs low for this program.



BLU

Blusource
2000 E. Seward Rd.
Guthrie, OK 73044
(405) 789-1999

Quote

Sold To:

Northern Illinois Food Bank
273 Dearborn Court
Geneva, IL 60134

Confirm To:

Jessica Willis

Order Number: 0035395
Order Date: 4/22/2019
Account Manager: 0005
Customer Number: 0052776

Ship To:

Northern Illinois Food Bank
273 Dearborn Court
Attn: Jessica Willis
(630) 443-6910 ext 144
Geneva, IL 60134

Delivery Date Range:

4/30/2019 - 5/10/2019

Customer P.O.	Ship VIA	Liftgate	Terms	Est Ship Weight	Est Ship Volume	Est Pallets
JH/SB	SAIA	Y	Net 30	3340 lbs	616 cu.ft.	9

Item Number	Description	Unit	QTY	Price	Total
BP1523	19" Rolling Backpack	CS4	250	63.00	15,750.00

1. Please return signed quote to confirm acceptance of order.
2. Quote is valid for 30 days after receipt.
3. Customer will be billed upon shipment of goods.
4. Payment will be due according to above listed payment terms.
5. Blusource reserves the right to substitute items with like or higher quality items.

Net Order: 15,750.00
Less Discount: 955.11
Freight Quote: 955.11

Customer Signature _____ Date _____

Order Total: 15,750.00



thank you for the opportunity to serve you



Kane County Fit for Kids Grant Project Timeline

August 2019	Purchase backpacks for school year program
August 2019	Invite schools to continue participation in the BackPack Program
August - September 2019	Participating schools invite families to BackPack program, obtain parental permission forms and give numbers of BackPacks needed to Food Bank
September 2019 – May 2020	Food Bank delivers new backpacks for each participating child with first week of food
September 2019 – May 2020	Food Bank delivers food weekly to schools during school year; school staff insert food in backpacks on Fridays for children to take home; children return backpacks on Mondays.
April – May 2020	Food Bank asks school coordinators, parents and children to complete surveys on impact of the program.
June – August 2020	Food Bank works with schools for Summer BackPack Program

**Northern Illinois Food Bank
BackPack Program Participating Schools in Kane County**

School Year

Aurora	Bardwell
Aurora	Brady
Aurora	Dieterich
Aurora	Gates
Aurora	Krug
Aurora	Nicholson
Aurora	Odonnell
Aurora	Rollins
Aurora	Todd Early Childhood Center
Aurora	Greenman
Aurora	Hall Elementary
Aurora	Hill Elementary School
Aurora	McCleery
Aurora	Smith Elementary
Aurora	Freeman Elementary
Carpentersville	Golfview
Carpentersville	Lakewood
Carpentersville	Perry
Elgin	Century Oaks
Elgin	Channing
Elgin	Coleman
Elgin	Ellis Middle School
Elgin	Garfield
Elgin	Harriet Gifford
Elgin	Highland
Elgin	Hillcrest
Elgin	Huff
Elgin	Illinois Park Early Childhood Center
Elgin	Kimball Middle School
Elgin	Larsen Middle School
Elgin	Lords Park
Elgin	McKinley Elementary
Elgin	More at 4
Elgin	O'Neal
Elgin	Washington
Hanover Park	Ontarioville
North Aurora	Goodwin Elementary
North Aurora	Schneider Elementary
North Aurora	Fearn Elementary
St Charles	Anderson
St Charles	Davis
St Charles	Richmond

Streamwood	Heritage
Streamwood	Sunnydale

Summer

Aurora	Allen
Aurora	Beaupre
Aurora	Benavides Kindergarten Center
Aurora	Brady
Aurora	Cowherd (21st)
Aurora	East Aurora High School
Aurora	Fred Rogers Magnet School
Aurora	Gates
Aurora	Hermes
Aurora	Johnson
Aurora	Krug
Aurora	O'Donnell
Aurora	Oak Park
Aurora	Simmons
Aurora	Waldo Middle School
Elgin	BGC ELGIN
Elgin	Kidz United