



**FOOD2go4Kids
WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM
Ligonier Valley School District
www.lv sdfoundation.org**



The "Food2go4Kids" weekend backpack program is sponsored by the Ligonier Valley School District community which includes staff, students and their families, and community supporters. It is coordinated by the LVSD administration and staff and funded by the LVSD Foundation. Backpacks are filled with either easy to prepare meals or snacks for weekends to children who are pre-qualified. The program was initiated, in January 2015, in response to the high percentage of students with no access to the free school breakfast and/or lunch they receive during the week.

This wellness program is provided to students who are pre-qualified by the district and enrolled by their parents. Students take home, every Friday during the school year, a backpack of nutritious, easy to use, child-friendly food items. Hunger leads to lack of motivation, lethargy, and decreased learning on Monday morning in the classroom. This program has greatly improved the readiness to learn of students in the LVSD.

In the LVSD, more than one-half of the elementary student population is eligible for the program. According to Morgan Stanley research, Fill the Plate - Feeding America: "one in four children in the U.S. doesn't have enough to eat. For 17 million+ children, getting a wholesome meal after school or on the weekend is a struggle."

Ongoing financial support is needed for the program that began in January 2015. It costs \$8.27/student per Friday distribution or approximately \$26,000 annually. During the 2015-2016 school year, seventy-five backpacks went home weekly. Funding is facilitated through the Food2go4Kids Fund of the Ligonier Valley School District Foundation. Can you make either a one-time contribution or commit to a monthly donation? If so, please complete the form below and return with your donation to LVSDF, Attn: Backpack, 120 East Main Street, Ligonier, PA 15658 or online via the Foundation website at <http://www.lv sdfoundation.org>.

NAME _____ DONATION \$ _____

ADDRESS _____

(For budgeting purposes, is this a one-time donation or will it be ongoing? If ongoing, frequency _____).

