

IMPACT REPORT

Childhood Nutrition



Blue Ridge Area
FOOD BANK



AUGUST 2025

Healthy Meals, Brighter Tomorrows: The Impact of Child Nutrition Programs

We believe that every child deserves the chance to grow, learn, and thrive. That's why we operate a range of direct distribution programs designed to ensure some of our most vulnerable neighbors—children and teens—have consistent access to nourishing food. These efforts complement the Food Bank's extensive network of partner food pantries, schools, and other community sites where families find support they need.

We focus on children because childhood hunger has lasting consequences. When young people face food insecurity, they're more likely to experience health challenges, developmental delays, and difficulties in school and social settings. Hunger doesn't just affect the body—it affects the whole child.

Thanks to your generous support, we're changing that story. Your contributions help us deliver healthy meals to children who need them most, giving them the fuel to succeed today and the foundation for a brighter tomorrow. When you give food, you give hope. And that simple act has a profound ripple effect—nourishing bodies, strengthening families, and uplifting entire communities.



With support from the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, Bright Futures provides **1,500 students** across **28 schools** in Winchester and Frederick County with food every week during the school year.



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“Hungry stomachs have no ears. Whatever blocks our kids from focusing on being present in the classroom, that's what we focus on.”

- Elise Stine-Dolinar
Coordinator, Bright Futures
Winchester and
Frederick County

Serving your community through one of four distribution centers located in Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Winchester, and Verona (headquarters).



**FLIP TO SEE
YOUR IMPACT**





You're helping us ensure every child has enough to eat—thank you!

With donor support last year, the Food Bank distributed 1.14 million pounds of food between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025 through the following child nutrition programs, serving and strengthening children living in the Blue Ridge Region.

- **Family BackPack Program***: Every Friday during the school year, children receive a bag filled with shelf-stable, nutritious food to take home—ensuring they and their families have enough to eat over the weekend and during school breaks.
- **School Break Boxes (and Summer Kid Packs)***: These provide children and their families with easy-to-prepare, nourishing food during the all school breaks including winter and summer months.
- **Good Food School Markets***: Located in middle and high schools, these school-based pantries offer students and their families a dignified, convenient way to access fresh produce, pantry staples, and other nutritious items.

Programs funded by the Virginia Department of Education:

- **Summer Food Service**: In partnership with local enrichment programs, this initiative provides freshly prepared meals and boxes of food to take home to children participating in summer camps and learning activities.
- **Kids Café**: After the final school bell rings, Kids Café steps in to provide healthy meals and snacks to children enrolled in afterschool programs.

** This project was funded in part by the Department of Social Services, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Private donations fill the gap.*

Thank you for your support!

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Child Nutrition Programs at a Glance

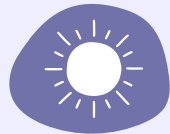
July 2024 - June 2025



2,400 children served monthly, on average, at Good Food School Markets.



3,800 children served monthly, on average, through Family BackPack and Community Supported Backpack programs.



2,300 kids and families received Break Boxes in December and over spring and summer breaks.



4,500 children were served through Kids Café and Summer Food Service sites.

Last year, we distributed
1.14 million pounds of food
through child nutrition programs.
THANK YOU!