

## FEED AND READ



THE OBJECTIVE OF THE FEED AND READ PROGRAM IS TO PROMOTE LITERACY WITH CHILDREN AND ALSO PROVIDE FOOD FOR THE CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. IF THEY'RE SITTING THERE, WORRYING ABOUT WHERE THEIR NEXT MEAL'S COMING FROM OR THEY DID NOT GET DINNER THE NIGHT BEFORE, IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE A HUNGRY KID CAN'T LEARN.

WE SEE KIDS WHO SOMETIMES COME HERE AND THEY DO NOT HAVE A LUNCH OR, OR THEY DON'T HAVE MONEY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THEM WITH SOME TYPE OF NUTRITION.

I HAD TO CUT BACK ON MY HOURS SO WE'RE TRYING TO MAKE SURE THAT WE CAN STILL MAINTAIN. THE FEED AND READ PROGRAM IS AN EXTENSION OF WHAT WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO DO DOMESTICALLY FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS. WE'RE COMBINING BOTH FEEDING CHILDREN AND THE EDUCATION COMPONENT.

NO CHILD SHOULD FEEL INFERIOR TO ANOTHER CHILD BASED ON WHAT THEY COME TO SCHOOL WITH. IN TODAY'S EVENT, THERE WILL BE 400 CHILDREN WHO WILL EACH RECEIVE A BACKPACK FILLED WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES. THEY'LL ALSO RECEIVE ART SUPPLIES, CHILDREN'S BOOKS. EVERYTHING COUNTS TO THESE FAMILIES AS WELL.

IT'S NOT JUST THE KIDS THAT NEED IT, IT'S ALSO THE FAMILIES. YOU KNOW, WE MIGHT BE SERVING ONE KID BUT THEY'RE GOING TO TAKE THESE PRODUCTS HOME AND IT'S GOING TO HELP THEIR ENTIRE FAMILY.

CUTS DOWN ON THE FOOD COSTS OR MONEY EXPENSE THAT I HAVE TO PUT ON MY POCKET. IT'S A FEW THINGS THAT WE DON'T HAVE TO PURCHASE SO THAT MEANS THAT WE CAN SPEND THAT MONEY ON OTHER THINGS, SO THAT'S A BIG HELP TO US.

WE'RE ACTUALLY TRYING TO WORK WITH PARTNERS WHO WILL ADOPT THIS TYPE OF PROGRAM YEAR-ROUND AND REALLY PROMOTE BOTH FEEDING CHILDREN AND LITERACY.

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FEEL OUTSTANDING FOR GETTING NEW BOOKS BECAUSE LIKE I DON'T HAVE TO READ OVER ONE BOOK OVER AND OVER. I HAVE NO BOOK TO READ AND LEARN ABOUT SOMETHING NEW I NEVER LEARNED.

HELPING OUT SO MANY FAMILIES, IT FITS IN PERFECTLY WITH OUR VALUES AND WITH OUR CULTURE. GREAT TO SEE THEY'RE LEAVING HERE WITH SMILES ON THEIR FACE AND BACKPACKS FULL OF STUFF, SO, IT'S WHY WE'RE HERE. WE JUST LOVE SEEING PEOPLE'S FACES WHEN THEY RECEIVE THIS AND SAY THANK YOU AND ALL THAT. IT'S JUST A GOOD FEELING. IT'S A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO JUST REALLY ENJOY EACH OTHER'S COMPANY AND GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY SO, IT DOESN'T GET MUCH BETTER THAN THAT.