



BULLDOG BAGS, INC. UPDATE

a 501(c)(3) non profit organization addressing food insecurity in the Stow-Munroe Falls (OH) City School District

HOW A BULLDOG BAG HAPPENS

Are you curious about what goes on behind the scenes that culminates in the Bulldog Bags that eligible children in the SMCS D take home two times a month during the school year? A lot of planning goes into each packing!! The Menu/Purchasing Committee plans the Menus of items to be included in Bulldog Bags for the school year. In planning the menus, they take into account the Food Drives held by community organizations, churches, business, and the schools. The **Menu/Purchasing Committee** consists of 4 teams; they divide the school year, so each team is only responsible for part of the school year. The Team that is responsible for planning the actual Food Items that will go into the month's Bulldog Bags, makes their final decision based on what has been collected in the Food Drives, the availability of items at the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank, and sale prices at local retailers.

As **Bulldog Bags, Inc.** has limited storage, the food is picked up by the volunteers during the week of packing and taken to Stow City Hall. If the Firemen are not out on a call, they generously volunteer to help unload the cases of food. The morning of packing, volunteers arrive at Stow City Hall at 8:15 a.m. to unbox the food and set it up in an assembly line, so that it will be ready for more volunteers who arrive by 9 a.m. The volunteers walk around the tables, filling the Bags; the Bags are then put into bins, which are moved to the hall, where the Delivery volunteers will pick them up and deliver them to the schools. Before 10 a.m., the leftover items are inventoried, stored, and the room is returned to pre-set up order. The whole process is a well-oiled machine, but there is a lot of preparation that goes into filling the Bulldog Bags! *Kudos to the Bulldog Bags, Inc. Menu/Purchasing Committee and the Packing Chairperson who put in so much organization into making Packing Day look easy, when a plastic bag is turned into a Bulldog Bag!*

We want students to show up Monday mornings hungry for LEARNING, not hungry for food!

vol-un-tee: A person who freely offers to take part in a task; they are not paid, because they are so precious that one cannot assign a value to it!

PACKING VOLUNTEERS SIGN-UP

People interested in volunteering to pack should use **SignUp Genius** on our webpage, www.bulldogbags.org/volunteers, for both groups and individuals to sign-up to pack. Reminder emails will be sent to people who have signed up.

DID YOU KNOW??

As the volunteers unbox the food items during the set-up for packing, the boxes are broken down and the cardboard is taken to the Stow Recycling Center, 5080 Stow Road; money received from the recycling of the cardboard goes to the *Urban Forestry Commission* in Stow and they purchase trees for the City of Stow! **Bulldog Bags, Inc. gives back to the community!**

The plastic that is with the cases of food is taken to a Center that recycles plastic bags.



The *Urban Forestry Commission* also accepts electronic devices (iPads, Tablets, iPhones, cell phones, iPods, mp3 players) at Stow City Hall and the money generated, also, helps to purchase trees for the City of Stow.

90 SECOND SHOPPING SPREE AT STOW ACME



Tickets are being sold now for the **2nd Annual 90 Second Shopping Spree**; winning ticket will be drawn at the first packing in 2020 and the actual Shopping Spree will take place on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Shopping Spree tickets make great Holiday Gifts/stocking stuffers. They are \$10.00 each; YOU CAN EMAIL:

bulldogbags44224@gmail.com and **we will get tickets to you.** They, also, will be available on:

- Bulldog Bag Packing Days;
- at home Basketball Games: December 6, 7, 10, 11, January 7, and 8;
- more events are: Dec. 7 Lunch with Santa at HS (Drama Club), Dec. 10 High School Orchestra, Dec. 12 High School Band Concert, and Dec. 18 Lakeview Band Concert.

Proceeds stay in the greater community to address food insecurity in the children in the SMFCSD, making the children the REAL WINNERS!

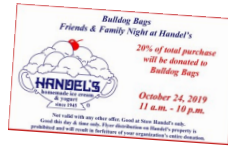
Follow the **Bulldog Bags, Inc.** Facebook page for current information, food drives, fundraisers, etc.!

UPCOMING EVENTS



HANDEL'S FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY: Thursday, October 24, 2019, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Handel's will

donate 20% of the sales to **Bulldog Bags, Inc.** Coupon is needed for **Bulldog Bags, Inc.** to get credit.



CHIPOTLE Fundraiser: Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2019

5 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Kent Road, Stow Store. Chipotle will donate 33% of proceeds, after \$300 in sales. Flyer, either paper or electronic, or just tell the cashier that you are with the fundraiser for **Bulldog Bags, Inc.**



STOW COMMUNITY FARMERS' MARKET HOLIDAY MARKET,

Saturday, November 23, 2019, 9 a.m.—1 p.m. We will have a table to sell the 90 Second Shopping Spree tickets.



Check the dates/places that the "90 Second Shopping Spree" tickets will be available!

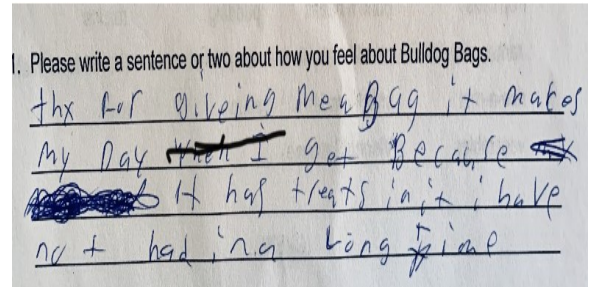
WANT TO GET INVOLVED or JUST GET INFO?

As an all-volunteer organization, **Bulldog Bags, Inc.** is dependent on people from the greater community to stay apprised of what's going on with the organization, as well as to serve on committees. If you'd like to receive our e-newsletter and let us know of your interest in becoming involved, please provide your **CONTACT INFORMATION** at www.bulldogbags.org/get-involved.

APPRECIATIVE RECIPIENTS



At the end of the school year the children, parents/guardians, and school staff are surveyed about their experience with the Bulldog Bag program. We especially like to receive the comments from the children, as they are the focus of the program



FOOD and PERSONAL CARE ITEM DRIVES



The collection of food and personal care items helps to keep the cost of a Bulldog Bag manageable. If your organization or business would like to host a Drive, please choose item(s) from the Drive Schedule at www.bulldogbags.org/food-drives and email bulldogbags44224@gmail.com to let us know of your selection.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- **You** can make a monetary donation; Bulldog Bags, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization and all donations are tax deductible (through the website or through the mail);
- **You** can sponsor 1 child's Bulldog Bags for a year for \$60.00;
- **You** can host a fundraising event, as well as attend Bulldog Bags, Inc. fundraising events;
- **You** can host/support community food drives to help keep the cost Bulldog Bags manageable;
- **You** can volunteer on one of the committees.

YOU can play a pivotal role in improving the lives of children in our community!

SUPPORT FROM THE ENTIRE GREATER COMMUNITY IS INTEGRAL TO BULLDOG BAGS, INC.