



BULLDOG BAGS, INC. UPDATE

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

BULLDOG BAGS FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

As *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* entered its 5th school year of packing and distributing weekend Bags of food to eligible SMFCSD students, the pandemic continues! Much of what has made the packing and delivery such a well-oiled machine, had to be redesigned to fit the hybrid school schedule, as well as the state/city's pandemic's safety guidelines!

The only certainty during this pandemic is that food insecurity continues and *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* will work to address it!

Bulldog Bags will continue to be provided to eligible students TWO times a month. They will be packed on **TUESDAYS** at Stow City Hall, but with a smaller crew of packers. People interested in packing can sign-up at www.bulldogbags.org/volunteers The bins of Bulldog Bags will be delivered to the schools and Maroon A students' Bulldog Bags will be distributed on Tuesday; GOLD students' Bags can be picked up at their home schools on Wednesdays, and Maroon B students' Bags will be distributed on Thursday!

Bulldog Bags are meant to take the place on the weekends the breakfasts and lunches that the children on the Free and Reduced Meal Program would have received at school. Even though Bulldog Bags will be distributed before the weekend, they will still provide extra food for the children!

Bulldog Bags, Inc. looks forward to the day when the pandemic is history and we can return to a room full of enthusiastic volunteers packing Bags for children to have for weekend food!

WRAP-UP OF 2019-2020 BULLDOG BAGS

Even though the schools closed in a mandatory shut down in mid-March 2020, Bulldog Bags continued to be packed and distributed to students. There were a total of 20 packings and 10,946 Bulldog Bags, with a total weight of 36,658#, were distributed to students. The average Bag cost was a little over \$3.00 per Bag or \$60.00 per school year per student. *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* spent \$33,609.35 at the Food Bank and local retailers on items for the Bags.

Prior to school closure, there were also Bulldog Cupboards at Kimpton and the High School to provide snacks and lunch items for students referred by staff. In addition, *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* funded Boxes of food that included both perishables and non perishables for families that had an extraordinary need.

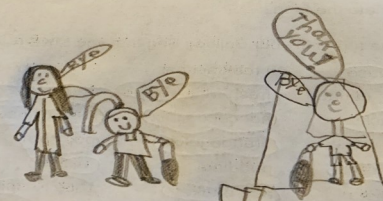
Thank you to the volunteers and donors who provided the money and time to help address food insecurity in our SMF students!

APPRECIATIVE RECIPIENT

At the end of the school year children, parents, and SMFCSD staff are surveyed to provide feedback to help make improvements to the program. We especially love the expressions of appreciation from the students!

10. Draw a picture or write a story BELOW showing how you feel about Bulldog Bags.

I like that you do Bulldog bags because it helps little kids be more calm and I love the food you put in the Bulldog Bags. And we can share with our neighbors.



DRIVERS NEEDED



Once the Bulldog Bags are packed into the bins, they need to be delivered to the schools. A team of regular volunteers arrive at Stow City Hall at 10 a.m. and load bins into their vehicles. They deliver to their designated schools. If you would like to be a regular or substitute driver, please email:

bulldogbags44224@gmail.com

SUMMER PROGRAM WRAP-UP



Bulldog Boxes were provided each month (2 in August, due to the delay in the start of school) to families of children eligible for Bulldog Bags and who registered. The Boxes had a minimum of 10 meals/snacks and contained fresh, frozen, and non-perishable food, as well as cleaning products. The Ohio National Guard delivered our order from the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank! A total of 363 Boxes were provided to an average of 91 families/distribution, which was twice as many families as last year! A Box averaged 57# and a retail value of \$130.00! *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* spent \$14,320 at the Food Bank and local retailers.

vol-un-teer:

A person who freely offers to take part in a task; they are not paid, because their time is so precious that a value cannot be assigned to it!

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BULLDOG BAGS, INC.

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. Please become familiar with our web page www.bulldogbag.org as it has important information about the organization...

How It Works: Information about the programs of *Bulldog Bags, Inc.*, plus the video "What's A Bulldog Bag?"

Get Involved: Sign up for Newsletters and/or sign-up to get more involved;

Calendar: List of fundraisers (with flyers) and other events;

Volunteers: SignUp Genius to sign up for packings;

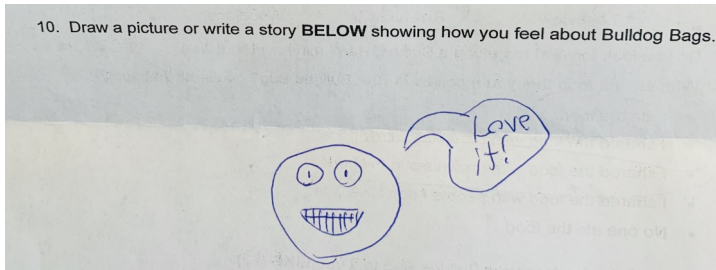
Food Drives: Food drives are very important to help keep the cost of Bulldog Bags manageable; please view the Food Drive Schedule and you, your business, or your organization can choose to collect items for a month;

Newsletters: Past editions of the *Bulldog Bags, Inc. Update*;

Other information on the Web Page, such as food resources, news articles, Board of Directors.

APPRECIATIVE RECIPIENT

10. Draw a picture or write a story **BELOW** showing how you feel about Bulldog Bags.



FUNDRAISERS

DINE-to-DONATE

CHIPOTLE - November 18th, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Chipotle will donate 33% of food receipts back to *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* 4 ways to let them know you are part of the fundraiser: 1. Tell the cashier, 2. Show the flyer on your phone, 3. Give cashier a paper flyer, 4. Order ONLINE at www.chipotle.com or the official Chipotle APP for pick-up and include PROMO CODE **M7ZQF9N**

More DINE-to-DONATE events are being planned...watch Bulldog Bags, Inc. Facebook Page.

STOW SMILES Family Dental Care, 3102 Graham Rd., 330-673-6830: During October and November, Stow Smiles will donate to *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* for each new patient.

INTEGRITY Auto Care, 5026 Hudson Drive, 330-689-2100: Through their Integrity Cares program, they will donate 10% of most auto services to *Bulldog Bags, Inc.*, if you designate it as your non-profit.

AMAZON SMILES: If you shop on-line at AMAZON, please use www.smile.amazon.com and choose *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* as your charity, then when you shop, use www.smile.amazon.com and a small portion of your purchase is donated to *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* **AMAZON PRIME DAYS are October 13th and 14th!**

DID YOU KNOW??

Bulldog Bags, Inc. donates the cardboard generated from the packing of Bags and Boxes to the City of Stow's Urban Forestry Committee to buy trees for the City of Stow!

Electronics (cellphones, iPads, iPods, mp3) are accepted at Stow City Hall to recycle for trees, also!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

YOU can play a pivotal role in addressing food insecurity in children in our community!

- **You** can volunteer on one of the committees;
- **You** can host/support community food drives to help keep the cost Bulldog Bags manageable;
- **You** can support *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* by attending its fundraising events;
- **You** can sponsor 1 child's Bulldog Bags for a year for \$60.00;
- **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 designate *Bulldog Bags, Inc.* for part of your IRA distribution.

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