

Student Needs

One in seven South Carolina students are hungry. Provide weekend food (Backpack Buddies) or bags of food for long breaks.

57% of students are behind in English/Language Arts and 29% are two grade levels behind. Consider serving as a Reading Buddy.

Mentors provide much needed encouragement to students who otherwise have little support.

Most schools need extra clothes: underwear, socks, sweat-pants, t-shirts for students who have accidents.

Some students do not have schools to wear or school - or they may need tennis shoes or cleats to participate in PE or sports.

Hygiene items are needed: shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and laundry detergent.

Many students need coats or jackets when the weather gets cooler.

Books are needed for elementary students to read at home over breaks and the summer.

Feminine products are needed for middle and high school girls. These are not covered by EBT cards.

School supplies are in August and need replenishing in January.

Foster Care students who are moved suddenly need clothes, pillows, duffle bags, and a special "lovey".

Ask about special needs of homeless students.



Serving Teachers/Staff

- Write personal notes of encouragement.
- Provide a basket of snacks and a note of appreciation for the teacher workroom.
- Host a coffee bar or provide breakfast periodically.
- Enlist small groups to provide monthly snacks for after-school faculty meetings.
- Celebrate teacher birthdays throughout the year.
- "Adopt" first year teachers and help them get needed classroom supplies and encourage them throughout the year.
- Put up a "tree" with teacher names and ask church members to adopt a teacher for the school year.
- Create gift bags for staff at the beginning of the year, Christmas, or Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Provide a simple treat to go in mailboxes once a month centered around any special occasion.
- Have a school supply drive for the teachers. Be sure to ask what the teachers need.
- Purchase playground equipment for recess.
- Ask your principal if there a good time to host a luncheon.
- Provide "duty-free" lunches to give teachers a helpful break in their day.
- Serve as a volunteer in the office, library, or anywhere needed.
- Be sure to encourage all staff: paraprofessionals, nurses, guidance counselors, custodians, food service providers, social workers, and bus drivers.
- PRAY for our teachers, administrators, and support staff!

