

PROPOSAL ABSTRACT

PROPOSAL NUMBER: (to be assigned by PGHF)

ORGANIZATION: Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia

PROGRAM TITLE: BackPack, Healthy Mobile Pantry, Healthy School Market

FUNDING CATEGORY: Children's Health, Diabetes Prevention

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$50,000

PROGRAM BUDGET: \$48,680 (Portsmouth Backpack Program)
\$47,095 (Healthy Mobile Pantry)
\$ 2,500 (Healthy School Market)

PREVIOUS FUNDING FROM PGHF FOR THIS PROGRAM: \$479,300 (between 2000 and 2017)

TOTAL AMOUNT PGHF HAS FUNDED THE AGENCY: \$575,473

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The *BackPack Program* will distribute nutritious food to children facing hunger when free and reduced-price school meals are not enough. Before the weekends and school holidays, bags containing 5 nutritious, child-friendly non-perishable meals are discreetly placed into the backpacks of children identified by school staff as food insecure. During the 2018-19 academic year, the Foodbank proposes to serve 47,550 healthy meals to 470 children in the following Portsmouth elementary schools: Brighton (140 students), Douglas Park (30 students), Westhaven (80 students), Churchland Academy (75 students), John Tyler (75 students); and Hodges Manor (70 students) which will distribute BackPacks weekly. During the 2017-18 year, the Portsmouth Backpack Program had 18 distributions (36 at Hodges Manor) per school providing 63,819 meals to 535 children.

The *Healthy Mobile Pantry* distributes Foods to Encourage (i.e. fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean protein, and low/non-fat dairy) directly to families struggling with hunger. The Foodbank will operate the Mobile Pantry at Cradock, Parkview, and Miracle of Life Church, providing approximately 20 meals per household to an average of at least 150 families per site per month, as well as nutritional education quarterly at all three locations. Last year, our funding helped support 36 distributions providing 262,278 meals for approximately 163 households served at each distribution.

The *Healthy School Market* program will conduct six markets at two elementary schools this upcoming year. Open to families with children enrolled in the host school, the Healthy School Market will provide access to fresh produce and other Foods to Encourage, family engagement activities, such as cooking demonstrations, health and nutrition education, and access to other resources including SNAP and WIC outreach. During the *pilot* program last year, four Healthy School Markets were held (2 distributions at Mount Herman Pre-School, 1 distribution each at Ida Barbour Early Learning Center and Lakeview Elementary school), with 6,233 meals provided, including 7,480 pounds of fresh produce.

The request would fund \$22,500 for the BackPack program, \$25,000 for the Healthy Mobile Pantry at Cradock and Parkview sites, and \$2,500 for the Healthy School Market program.

NOTE: This request has the written approval of the Portsmouth Superintendent of Schools.

RECOMMENDATION: (to be assigned by PGHF)