TORNADO BUDDY BAGS

"We believe that no child should ever go hungry."

MOUNT CARMEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOW TO DONATE

Send checks payable to "Mount Carmel Area School District," c/o Pete Cheddar, Mount Carmel Area Superintendent, 600 West Fifth Street, Mount Carmel, PA 17851

- Or -

Make contribution online through the Mount Carmel Area Education Foundation

http://www.mca.k12.pa.us/wp/mca-education-foundation/donate/

Contact the Jr./Sr. Principals Office with any questions.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Tornado Buddy Bag Program began almost 10 years ago – February 2017. The program's mission was an urgent one: There were needy students in the Mount Carmel Area School District who didn't have enough to eat on weekends. The district wanted to remedy that.

These students already had access to free lunches and free breakfasts Monday through Friday during the school year, but they often went hungry between Friday afternoon and Monday morning. The district came up with the solution that is now being followed in a growing number of communities: Provide them, each Friday afternoon, with bags of nutritious food they can enjoy throughout the weekend, food items that require little or no preparation before eating.

FILLING THE GAP SO CHILDREN WON'T GO HUNGRY OVER THE WEEKEND

The program, which started small with 10 students served, has expanded to 40 students weekly – and now sends over 150 bags per week!

Because of the generosity of individuals and organizations, Tornado Buddy Bag was also able to continue operating throughout the summer 2 and over the Christmas holiday break.

To continue the Tornado Buddy Bag at its same level (150 students, per week, including the summers) the school district needs to raise $16,000 annually. Public support is necessary, because the school district's operating budget is not able to support the program.

Tornado Buddy Bag is truly a success story for each student served!

For more information on our Tornado Backpack Program please contact Pete Cheddar in the Superintendent Office.

The Mount Carmel Area School District thanks these organizations for their financial support:

- UNB Bank in Mount Carmel
International Paper @InternationalPaper
- Degenstein Foundation
- Central Pennsylvania Food Bank for his advice on starting up the program, and the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank for an initial start-up grant.
- Mother Maria Kaupas Center for a start-up grant and for its assistance with organization and fund-raising