



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lower Paxton helps NutriPacks secure \$25,000

CommunityAid grant

NutriPacks helps Central Dauphin students facing food insecurity

Photo at bottom of release

Lower Paxton Township, PA (Wednesday, January 24) – As food prices increase, a \$25,000 grant from CommunityAid Foundation is welcome help for the NutriPacks program, which ensures Central Dauphin School District students have enough to eat throughout the school year.

Lower Paxton partnered with NutriPacks to apply for the CommunityAid Foundation grant. The funds come at a critical time, as NutriPacks has seen a 36 percent increase in food prices. NutriPacks (www.cdsdnutripacks.org) currently helps 1,890 students in 1,200 households and hands out more than 800 meals weekly.

"It is with immense joy and appreciation that I extend our heartfelt thanks to CommunityAid for their generous grant of \$25,000 to the NutriPacks program," said Lower Paxton Township Supervisors Chairman Robin Lindsey. "Together, we are nurturing the future of our community, one meal at a time."

Lindsey said the Township is committed to helping organizations like NutriPacks. She said the Township recently hired a community outreach specialist, Michelle Thompson, who found the grant opportunity and applied to CommunityAid on NutriPack's behalf. The Lower Paxton Police Department also recently donated \$1,500.

"Providing nutritious foods for the weekends helps our students arrive for school on Monday ready to learn," said Pam Jones, NutriPack's director. "The generous grant of \$25,000 from CommunityAid will help the NutriPacks program continue its mission of providing nutritious food for students who are food insecure."

Even though NutriPacks gets its food through the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, Jones said costs have been increasing – as has demand for the program.

NutriPacks is part of the nonprofit Panther Ram Foundation (www.pantherram.org), which funds programs and services that support and enrich the students, families, and staff of the Central Dauphin School District. The district is the largest in Dauphin County, encompassing Lower Paxton, Middle Paxton, Swatara, and West Hanover townships and Dauphin, Paxtang, and Penbrook boroughs.

Chavah Redmond, Vice President of Mission Impact for CommunityAid, said the foundation was proud to support NutriPacks and its positive impact. CommunityAid (<https://communityaid.org/>) is a nonprofit that supports various organizations addressing barriers to housing, food, and basic needs through proceeds from its seven Pennsylvania thrift stores.

"CommunityAid is honored to support the NutriPacks program in its mission to ensure that hunger is not a barrier to academic success," Redmond said. "We are inspired by their commitment to the families of Central PA and are grateful for their partnership and engagement with us. What a great example of neighbors helping neighbors."

Assistant Central Dauphin School District Superintendent Aaron McConnell thanked CommunityAid and Lower Paxton Township for helping support the NutriPacks program.

"On behalf of the Central Dauphin School District (CDSD) Board of Directors, Administration, Staff, Students and Community, we are grateful for our partnership with the Panther Ram Foundation and the NutriPacks Program," McConnell said. "The program has expanded in providing services to families and remains a vital component of our CDSD Community."



(From left) Pam Jones, NutriPack's director, Sgt. Autumn Lupey, Lower Paxton Township Police Department, Lower Paxton Supervisor Chris Judd, Lower Paxton Supervisors Chairman Robin Lindsey, Chavah Redmond, Vice President of Mission Impact for CommunityAid, Adam Kosheba, Lower Paxton Township Director of Public Safety.



NutriPack volunteers prepare meal kits for the weekend.

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Lower Paxton Township is the largest municipality in Dauphin County and the 15th largest in Pennsylvania, covering a 28-square-mile area. To learn more, visit www.lowerpaxton-pa.gov and follow Lower Paxton on Facebook @LowerPaxtonTwp, Twitter @LowerPaxtonTwp & Instagram @lowerpaxtontownship