



Vicki Zylstra, a Kids' Food Basket supporter and volunteer, shares the importance of the Sack Supper:

"This past fall our family hosted two children, both of whom attended Holland Heights Elementary School. Before the kids took temporary residence with us for a few weeks, they received Sack Suppers each weekday from Kids' Food Basket. We learned that these meals provided the kids with security, stability, and safety.

"During the first days of their stay, I helped clean out their backpacks as we prepared for homework. Each day the kids asked where the Sack Suppers would go, and I assured them that the food would be put in the fridge and available to them at any time. I realized I could not suspend the Sack Suppers in their backpacks even though they had a solid supper on the table each night. Keeping the Sack Suppers accessible to them created security and peace of mind. So we kept the great Sack Suppers and the decorated bags. And along with them a sense of security, keeping something simple — in a life that, for them, was not simple at all.

"This small bag of food was a consistent way to let them know they were loved, cared for, important, and valued. Thank you for what you do. You make a difference, you are an influence, you are a blessing."

Kids' Food Basket has

run out of space

to serve more children in Ottawa and Allegan counties

We're currently serving

only 10% of the 11,120 kids

who are food insecure in the two counties

With an expanded capacity,

6 more schools

will be served

Help us meet this critical need by investing in the future of our community.



THANK YOU!

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GIVE ONLINE AT

[Kidsfoodbasket.org/FeedingOurFuture](https://kidsfoodbasket.org/FeedingOurFuture)

CONTACT US

To discuss giving opportunities, please contact Tracy Amid, Holland Program Manager at 616.377.8773 or tracy.amid@kidsfoodbasket.org



a campaign for Ottawa + Allegan Children



Every day, Kids' Food Basket helps thousands of children thrive by meeting a simple but critical need: the nourishment of an evening meal made with love.

Good nutrition has the power to improve a child's life.

Today that power is limited by our capacity.



A space to grow!

Kids' Food Basket has outgrown our Holland space in Ottawa County after four years in our location at Peace Lutheran Church. We currently have the capacity to serve 1,100 students in Ottawa County — only 10% of food insecure students in Ottawa and Allegan counties.

To meet the demand we recently secured the purchase of a new building. We will expand to serve students in both Ottawa and Allegan counties with a dynamic space where we can grow to:

- **Eliminate our waitlist.** The new building will allow Kids' Food Basket to begin service at the remaining six schools on the immediate waitlist in these counties.
- **Enable learning.** We will have a centralized facility to host activities for community learning and empowerment across economic barriers.
- **Engage our community.** Additional volunteer opportunities will expand the impact of passionate community members and youth advocates who are eager to share their time and talents.
- **Ensure long-term sustainability.** This campaign provides the lasting flexibility needed to continue expanding our services. By putting down roots with room to grow, we can nourish children to reach their full potential.

A daily impact.

Sack Suppers provide nutritious daily meals. Over 1 million meals are served annually across West Michigan, with great need awaiting us. **Jeff Kruihof, Executive Director at People Helping People of Pullman**, shares the impact of a secure meal:

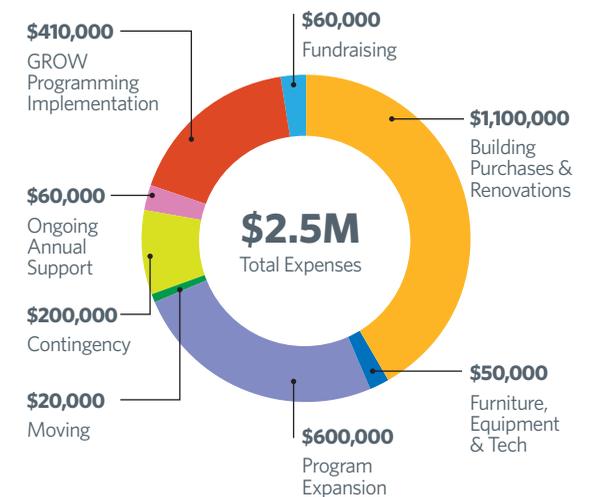
"Many in our community live in a vicious and complex cycle known as generational poverty. They find themselves without food, worrying about their electric being turned off, running out of gas for their car or propane to heat the house. They jump from one crisis to the next, a reality that has become a normal way of life. They are constantly searching for the basics of life... food, shelter and clothing. Kids' Food Basket serving Allegan County will help alleviate the search for food."



Secure success for more West Michigan Kids!

The Feeding Our Future campaign is seeking **\$2.5 million** to ensure kids are nourished to reach their full potential.

Your investment will immediately impact the lives of young people in our community — improving their chance to be their best, in school and in life, for the long term. Please join the Kids' Food Basket board of directors, our staff, and community activists to remove hunger as a barrier to learning.



Childhood hunger hurts. You can help.