



Lutheran
Social
Services
of
Central
Ohio

MEDIA RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Jennifer Hamilton, Director of Communications
(614) 228-5200, ext. 1510
jhamilton@lssco.org

LSS TO ACCOMPLISH ANOTHER BACKPACK ‘MISSION’

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio (LSS) is helping parents take the strain off already tight budgets by organizing Mission: Backpack, a program that will provide needed school supplies to children with no other way to get them. Items from the drive, which began July 25 and will conclude August 9, will be given to families who visit the two Franklin County LSS food pantries.

“Being nervous about starting school and not fitting in is something every student goes through. But being nervous because you can’t afford proper supplies is something no student should ever have to experience,” said Barb Packer, corporate director of food pantry services.

Those interested in making a contribution should fill a backpack with supplies and deliver it to one of the LSS food pantries at 1460 S. Champion Ave. and 2373 Sullivant Ave., the LSS corporate office at 750 E. Broad St. or one of the three LifeWay Christian Stores at 8735 Lyra Drive, 1657 Georgesville Square or 5731 Chantry Drive. Anyone preferring to send a monetary donation should send \$35 or an amount of his or her choice to the corporate office.

“We had immense success with Mission: Backpack last year,” Packer said. “So many financially-strapped parents worry about how they will afford the supplies that their children have to have, and we offer them a solution. And seeing a child walk out of pantry full of pride because of his or her new backpack is so rewarding.”

With its regional divisions of Lutheran Social Services of Northern Ohio and Lutheran Social Services of Southern Ohio, Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio serves thousands of people each day by focusing on the core societal issues of hunger, housing, healing and hope. LSS provides food pantries, homeless shelters, senior living, affordable housing communities and other programs and services that uplift families and strengthen communities. LSS is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, recognized by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and a charter member of Lutheran Social Services in America.