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Project Description						
The Food Backpack Program provides selected low-income children at Beaver Creek School with backpacks of food to take home on the weekends						
Amount Received						
\$1250.00						
How did this project make a difference in reducing childhood hunger in Arizona						
This project made a difference in reducing childhood hunger in Arizona by providing children with food at times when they might not have any. Here at the school we can make sure that they get fed during the week through our/USDA free or reduced breakfast and lunch program but many children do not have adequate amounts or any food on the weekend. By giving them a backpack filled with snacks and simple meals every Friday, we can ensure that they are eating all seven days of the week						
Number of children served						
Approximately 30						
Number of meals served						
Approximately 150						
Number of snacks served						
Approximately 300						
Description of meals/snack served						
Snacks given in the backpacks usually consisted of crackers and peanut butter, raisins, applesauce, granola bars, graham cracker cookies, fruit pies, pudding, trail mix, and fruit cups. Meals given usually consisted of chili, mac n' cheese, ramen noodles, spaghetti's, tuna, chicken noodle soup, and Vienna sausages.						
Description of most popular meal/snack served						
The most popular snacks served were pudding and peanut butter or cheese crackers and the most popular meals served were mac n' cheese and spaghetti's.						
What improvement/impact was made						
While there are many children in need in the Verde Valley, we were at least able to see that approximately thirty of them would not go hungry at all during the school year. We are hoping to serve more and more children as the program strengthens and grows.						
How did you measure the success of the project						
We measured the success by the fact that none of the children who were asked to participate declined. Also, all the children returned their backpacks to get refilled every week and they were very excited to pick them up every Friday.						
Will the program continue						
We are very excited to say that due to this grant the program will continue into the school year of 2009-2010. The program is expanding to serve more children at Beaver Creek School and in addition, Dr. Daniel Bright Elementary in Cottonwood and Clarkdale Elementary in Clarkdale have signed on to start the program at their schools. As the year goes on and the programs gain more funding and recognition, we hope to keep expanding to see that more and more children in the Verde Valley aren't going hungry on the weekends.						
Additional Information						