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Fall 2019 >>>

A community solution to *helping kids be kids*

Hope NOT Hunger

Staff:

Lindsay Anderson, Executive Director
Kristen Stanfield, Program Assistant

Board of Directors:

Phill Raimer, President
Sam Tilford, Vice President
Nora Welch, Treasurer
Karla Klemm
Mary Beth Luedtke

SPECIAL THANKS

A huge thank you goes out to the **Fruita Rotary Club** for going above and beyond delivering bags of food to Fruita kids over the summer. On Fridays, they visit more than four locations and even deliver directly to homes.

This summer they distributed **1,960 bags** of food to hungry kids!
Thank you, Fruita Rotarians!

Vision, Mission, and Values

Who we are at the core

Our core ideologies set the foundation of who we are at Kids Aid. We refer to these ideologies to keep us grounded in our decision making as we adapt to the needs of the children and youth that benefit from our program. This spring we took some time to reflect on and refresh our vision, mission, and values.

We're excited to share our updates with you.

VISION: No child experiences hunger in Mesa County.

MISSION: To alleviate childhood hunger so kids can be kids.

VALUES:

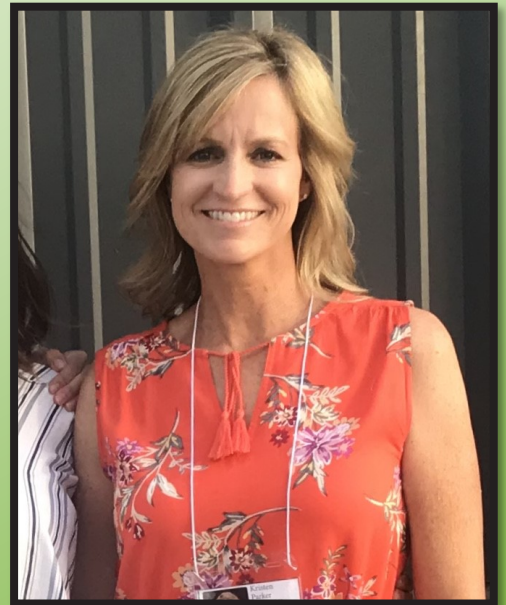
- We value **kids**, considering their needs first
- We value **human dignity**, infusing compassion in all that we do
- We value **community partnership**, prioritizing collaboration and joint solutions
- We value **clear and simple systems**, increasing accessibility, efficiency, and responsiveness
- We value **community contribution**, acknowledging all who support our mission and vision
- We value **connection**, operating with gratitude and kindness

A CHILD'S SHOULDERS WERE NOT BUILT TO BEAR THE WEIGHT OF THEIR PARENTS' CHOICES. -TOBYMAC

STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Meet our newest staff member, Kristen Stanfield. At the end of February, she transitioned from volunteer to our Program Assistant. Since then she has been a beacon of light in our warehouse. Her kindness and compassion further to improve the family feel that Kids Aid strives to obtain. We are grateful beyond measure that she chooses to share her talents with us!

"I have been involved with Kids Aid now for 10 years as a volunteer, so when the opportunity to become more involved arose, it felt like a natural fit. I have seen the program grow from serving a few schools out of Mike Berry's garage to serving over 50 schools out of the huge warehouse we use today. I have also seen the profound effect that the program has on hungry kids in our community. When I started as a volunteer, my three young kids and their friends helped me pack bags at Orchard Avenue Elementary, where I later worked as the Health Assistant. Seeing first-hand the hunger that was pervasive there solidified my dedication to the program. I am so grateful for this opportunity and am in awe every day at the love, support, and generosity that this community provides hungry kids through their dedication to the Kids Aid mission. I feel so honored to be a part of it and to help in any way that I can."



Kristen Stanfield

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Volunteers: The heartbeat of our program

Thank you to all of our volunteers for sharing our mission. As the beginning of our 12th school year begins, we are filled with gratitude for our dedicated volunteers. Across the valley, more than 150 people come together to make serving around 2,000 kids each week a reality. From sorting apples and nonperishable food to packing and delivering bags, our volunteers are compassion in motion. We are fortunate to have the support of our community. Thank you, Volunteers!

If you'd like to join our incredible team, email Kristen at admin@kidsaidcolorado.org for information.

You can help alleviate childhood hunger
for less than \$4 a weekend!



2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR & SUMMER PROGRAMS

That's a wrap! The Backpack Program completed its 11th year of feeding hungry kids during the school year in May and the summer program in August. It's humbling to be part of a community that has wrapped their hearts around our kids. Thank you for investing in our collective future by making sure children and youth do not go hungry over the weekends. Here's to a successful 12th year! **We couldn't do this important work without you.**

Your support made this possible:

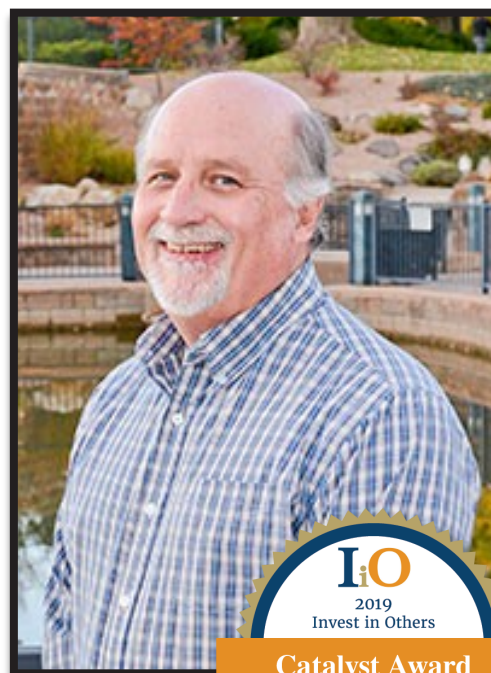
- **60,000 +** bags of food distributed during the school year
- **6,500 +** bags of food distributed during the summer
- **150 +** volunteers dedicated **12,000 +** hours to feeding kids
- **1,800 +** children and youth served every week
- **50 +** distribution site locations including Debeque, Plateau Valley, & CMU

THANK YOU!



IN THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

We're elated to announce that our founder, Mike Berry, is a finalist for the Invest in Others Catalyst Award! The Invest in Others Awards Gala celebrates financial advisors from across the nation that give back locally and globally. The Catalyst Award honors advisors who are an active stimulus for positive change and display entrepreneurial visions and leadership to a nonprofit organization. True to form, Mike humbly shared that this honor is a reflection of how our community has rallied together with their time, talents, and treasures to solve a problem. We agree and also acknowledge that The Backpack Program wouldn't exist without Mike's vision, compassion, courage, and leadership. Mike has provided a space for our community to come together to alleviate childhood hunger and we could not be more proud to celebrate his achievements.



Mike Berry

The awards ceremony takes place in Boston, MA
Thursday, September 26th. Best of luck, Mike!



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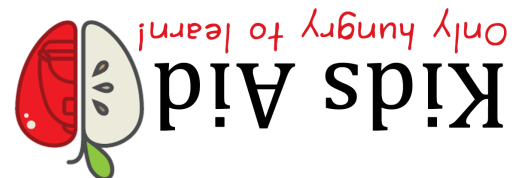


WHY WE'RE HERE

“Thank you for the food. My family cannot afford it and it’s hard to learn when I’m hungry.” -Anonymous Student

Close to 50% of students enrolled in School District #51 qualify for free or reduced lunches. Breakfasts and lunches are available for students at their schools Monday through Friday leaving a hunger gap through the weekends. Kids Aid was created so that students could show up to school on Monday mornings **“Only hungry to learn.”** Thank you for your continued support as we launch our 12th school year of feeding kids!

www.kidsaidcolorado.org



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