



United Way of
Cumberland County

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United Way Hosts Annual Meal Packing Event to Combat Hunger in Cumberland County

Fayetteville, N.C. (June 13, 2023) – United Way of Cumberland County is excited to announce its third annual Meal Packing Event in partnership with Meals of Hope. This year's event will take place on August 22, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Crown Expo Center. The goal is to pack 70,000 meals for those in need within the community.

With the support of dedicated volunteers and generous sponsors, this event aims to bring together diverse groups from across the region, including school groups, religious organizations, corporations, and community members, to fight hunger and ensure no one in Cumberland County goes without a meal.

Event Details

- **Date:** August 22, 2024
- **Time:** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Location:** Crown Expo Center, 1960 Coliseum Dr, Fayetteville, NC 28306
- **Goal:** Pack 70,000 meals for people in need in Cumberland County

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Where the Food Will Go

The meals packed during the event will be distributed to several local non-profits, including:

- Alms House Hope Mills
- Armed Services YMCA
- Catholic Charities
- Falcon's Children Home
- Fayetteville Urban Ministry
- Operations Blessings
- Spring Lake Family Support Services

These organizations work tirelessly to support individuals and families facing food insecurity in Cumberland County.

Children's Backpack Program Donations

In addition to the meal packing, United Way is actively seeking donations for the Second Harvest Food Bank's Children's Backpack Program. This crucial initiative provides food-filled backpacks to children in need, ensuring they have access to nutritious meals over the weekends and during school holidays. Contributions to this program will directly help combat child hunger in the Cumberland County School District. We are accepting the following food donations:

- Pop Top Can Meals
- Individual Cereals
- Shelf-stable 2% Milk
- Juice Boxes
- Fruit Cups

A collection point will be available during the Meal Packing Event, allowing participants to contribute directly to the Children's Backpack Program and help provide essential nourishment to children in our community.

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How to Get Involved

There are multiple ways for individuals and organizations to participate in the Meal Packing Event:

1. **Volunteer:** Help with setting up, packing meals, or cleaning up after the event.
2. **Spread Awareness:** Share event details with your networks to help us reach a broader audience and mobilize more support
3. **Donate:** Financial contributions help cover the cost of ingredients and supplies, with every \$0.32 providing one meal.
4. **Sponsor:** Local businesses and organizations can support the event through various sponsorship packages, including Title Sponsor, Gold Sponsor, and more.

For more details or to get involved, please contact Ashlee Pearson at 910-483-1179 x 225 or at ashleepearson@unitedway-cc.org.

United Way of Cumberland County

Our mission is to improve lives across Cumberland County by strategically raising and investing resources that successfully impact prioritized human service and health needs while working in effective and innovative partnerships with direct provider agencies. To learn more visit <https://www.unitedway-cc.org/>

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