

Helping Hands

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."-author unknown

Many of our local children are dependent upon the free and reduced lunch program at school throughout the week. They struggle over the weekend for the proper nutrition they need to grow healthy minds and bodies. Helping Hands is a local program specifically designed to fill that gap. Through donations of people in the community, Helping Hands sends kids home on Friday afternoon with delicious, easy to prepare meals and snacks to ensure they are eating well over the weekends and come back to school Monday morning ready to learn.

Children in the Helping Hands program are identified by the cafeteria staff, guidance counselor, and principal, and sent home with a permission slip to receive a bag of food on Fridays. Teachers discreetly slip the bag into their backpacks before they leave school for the weekend. We are currently serving 24 children in the Crystal City school district. As support for the program continues to grow, we will periodically add children who are in need.

Our vision for this program is simple, yet vital to the success of these kids: Better test scores, improved reading skills, improvement in behavior, improved health, and increased attendance. As the program continues, we are beginning to see the progress in these areas.

This program is only possible through the support of people in the community. Helping Hands has already received a tremendous amount of support from people in our community. The Helping Hands blog is updated weekly to reflect the needs of the program, and people from our community provide for these children week after week. God has truly blessed Crystal City with concerned, caring citizens who are willing to answer His call to help these children.

In order to serve these kids each week, there is an ongoing need for donations. If you would like more information, or would like to help provide for the children of Crystal City, please visit the website at www.helpinghandscrystalcity.blogspot.com. 100% of the donations go directly to children in the Crystal City School District.