

## **2011-2012 B.A.G.S. For Tomorrow Year End Summary**

After a number of weeks of research, planning, and organizing, our first bags were distributed to students on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Since then the number of bags distributed have fluctuated, but at the end of the school year, we were distributing 10 bags each week to needy students. The total number of bags we distributed since January 20<sup>th</sup> was 140 Bags.

Due to the generosity of the people of Groton, as well as the application and awarding of several grants, we have raised \$8369.29. It was always my hope and intention to raise enough money to cover expenses for this year as well as next year. This way we would not have to be going back to the community for more and more money to keep the program sustained. I think we have accomplished this task. We will now have the fall and winter to look for, and apply for more grants, putting less of a burden on the people of Groton.

Our expenses to date are \$1491.08. Right now, each bag we distribute costs approximately \$8.30. (We are always looking to find ways to reduce this amount.) There will be 37 weeks next year that we will be distributing bags to students. If numbers were to stay the same for next year (10), we would have a cost of \$3071.00 for the distributions of bags. This is based on 37 weeks of distribution, which covers the number of school weeks in session from the Groton Area School Calendar. I anticipate the number of bags distributed to increase, but there is no way of knowing this. (it could decrease)

Here is a brief description of how the delivery of the bags works on a weekly basis:

- Chuck Padfield checks the inventory Saturday mornings and orders food accordingly to keep enough food in stock.
- Carol Knecht packs the BAGS on Wednesdays or Thursdays. She enlists help as needed. As there were only 10 bags per week, the time it took her organizing, packing and delivering bags to school was approximately one hour and she did not have to ask for much help, although there has been a tremendous amount of volunteers willing to help her if she needed it.
- Dan Dalchow stapled locker numbers to each bag to be delivered.
- Dan Dalchow and Eric Hamiel(school counselor) delivered bags.

I have been overwhelmed by the response to this program. The generosity of time and money from so many different people and organizations makes me proud to live in this community. I know that the recipients of the bags are grateful for the help. I would like to personally thank everyone involved for their cooperation and commitment to BAGS for Tomorrow, and it is because of everyone's help that this program has run very smoothly from the very start and should continue as such next year as well.

Sincerely,

Dan Dalchow