

**ORGANIZATION NAME**

Blessings in a Backpack Orlando

FOUNDED

In 2009, the Kate & Justin Rose Foundation teamed up with Blessings in a Backpack (national) to help fight childhood hunger on the weekends in the Orlando area. In May 2020, thanks to a generous gift from the Foundation, the Orlando Chapter was founded.

MISSION

Blessings in a Backpack mobilizes communities, individuals, and resources to provide food on the weekends for elementary school children who might otherwise go hungry. Blessings in a Backpack is the only national organization solely dedicated to preventing childhood hunger on the weekends, and we strive to ensure children don't go hungry by empowering individuals and communities to take action.

WEBSITE

Orlando.blessingsinabackpack.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

LEADERSHIP

Sarah Carlson - Managing Director, Orlando

COUNTIES SERVED

Orange, Seminole and Osceola

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS

42

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

More than 5,600 students are served every weekend during the school year.

HOW IT WORKS

Blessings partners with local volunteers, schools, donors, and other community leaders to make hunger-free weekends possible. As little as \$130 will help us feed one child on the weekends for the entire school year. At programs across the Orlando area, food is packed into bags and then discreetly placed into kids' backpacks each Friday of the school year.

WHAT'S IN A BAG?

A Blessings bag includes six to eight food items that are both nutritious and that kids like to eat. Blessings in a Backpack looks to maximize proteins, fibers, and other nutrients while minimizing processed sugars. For example, the cereals are multigrain, reduced sugar versions that are approved for use in school nutrition programs. All foods are shelf-stable and are individual servings that kids can serve themselves.

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