



BAYOU CITY
**BLESSINGS IN A
BACKPACK**

2023 IMPACT REPORT



A ministry of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church

OUR TEAM



Katie Fields

Program
Coordinator



Michelle Putnik

Volunteer
Coordinator

VISION

Executive Board

Kevin Peter, Chair
Melissa Peter, Founder
Mike Fiuzat
Jody Simpson
Katie Fields

The vision of Bayou City Blessings is to work collaboratively with partner schools to remove childhood hunger as a non-academic barrier to learning so that all children have the opportunity to experience academic success.

Advisory Board

Marty Chapman
Kara McDuffie
Clair Silliman
Suzy Spencer
Cheryl Tyler
Pat Groves

MISSION

Bayou City Blessings mobilizes our local community, individuals and resources to provide food on the weekends and during school breaks for Houston children who might otherwise go hungry. Our mission serves to raise awareness of childhood hunger by building community and establishing relationships with our educational partners to improve the lives of Houston children.

FEEDING HEARTS & BELLIES

As a part of Blessings in a Backpack national network and a ministry of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, Bayou City Blessings launched in 2012 to feed hungry children who reside in Houston area “food deserts,” areas that have limited access to affordable, nutritious food. That year, Bayou City Blessings provided weekend food for 60 students at one school in Houston’s Third Ward. Since then, tireless volunteers and generous donors have partnered with Bayou City Blessings, making it possible to provide weekend food to over 2,500 hungry children in the 2022-23 school year.

2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR STATS:



2,538 kids fed



96,444 hunger free weekends



1,075 volunteers



675,108 food items given out
(plus more at holidays)



"Feed my lambs." - John 21:15

HOW IT WORKS & WHAT IT MEANS

Children receive weekend food bags every Friday to bridge the gap between Friday lunch and Monday breakfast. This helps to ensure students arrive to school on Monday ready to learn, eliminating hungry weekends and preparing their minds and bodies to learn, grow and develop.



**BCB WEEKEND FOOD BAGS
CONTAIN
2 PROTEINS,
2 BREAKFAST ITEMS,
2 FRUITS, A SNACK &
AN ENCOURAGING NOTE.**

**A typical bag contains
chili, goldfish, apple sauce, graham
crackers, cereal cup,
milk and raisins.**

"Bayou City Blessings in a Backpack has partnered with Spring Shadows Elementary in providing all of our students with weekend food bags to take home. Many of our families on our campus are facing hardships, food insecurities, and financial challenges. The food bags make sure our students don't go hungry. I have had many of the mothers we work with come and show their gratitude on the bags their children take home. Spring Shadows Elementary is enormously grateful for Bayou City Blessings in a Backpack and their amazing partnership with us." - Spring Shadows CIS Manager

THE NEED

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Harris County now ranks 2nd in the nation for children living with food insecurity - just behind Los Angeles County.

You can help close this gap by partnering with Bayou City Blessings to feed Houston's hungry children.

\$125 =

38 weekend food bags for one child

\$3,750 =

38 weekend food bags for a classroom

**TAKE
ACTION!**



Donations made to Bayou City Blessings in a Backpack directly feed only Houston school children in our contract schools in HISD and SBISD.

GET INVOLVED

MAKE A DONATION

\$125 provides a bag of food for one child for each weekend of the school year, plus more on holidays!
Give once, weekly, monthly or annually!



OR, enter a credit card online:

www.bayoucityblessings.org/donate

TELL YOUR FRIENDS

Are you connected with a foundation or grant-making organization?

Let Katie know:

katie@bayoucityblessings.org

713-818-1579



VOLUNTEER

We need help packing food & delivering food to schools! Want to help? If so, let Michelle know:

volunteer@bayoucityblessings.org

713-202-1953



**Bayou City
BLESSINGS IN A
BACKPACK**

Who will feed the kids this weekend?

COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY CALENDAR (2023-2024)

September 21
October 19
November 16
December 14
January 25
February 15
March 7
April 18
May 16

Groups are welcome. Family-friendly event.

All events are held in Palmer Parish Hall at 6:00 pm
Holy Spirit Episcopal Church
12535 Perthshire Road, Houston, Texas 77024

For more information about Bayou City Blessings in a Backpack, please visit us at www.bayoucityblessings.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Save the date

THURSDAY,
FEB. 1, 2024

**MARISSA & DUNCAN
KLUSSMANN,**

EVENT CHAIRS & SPEAKERS

6:00 PM AT BOWLERO AT 925 BUNKER HILL



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