



UNITED WAY
Northeastern
Minnesota

**BUDDY
BACKPACKS**

**2024-2025
SCHOOL YEAR* IMPACT**

29,925 

Meal Kits Packed

1,299 

Children Fed

55 

School/Community Sites

709 

Volunteers

STUDENTS SAY...

“Sometimes we don’t have much to eat so we eat cereal or something from the Buddy Backpack.”

“I feel like someone is taking care of me...”

“We don’t have much food at the shelter.”



SCHOOLS SAY...

“My kids who receive Buddy Backpacks are extremely grateful for them!”

“This is a very needed program that students who need it really look forward to.”

“Thank you for providing this for our families.”

“We love and appreciate the Buddy Backpacks program so much!!”



*2024-2025 school year includes summer 2024.



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BACKPACKS**

LEARN MORE:

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SCHOOL YEAR* IMPACT**

WE ASKED:

**“Is Buddy Backpacks
important?”**

100%



of teachers said yes

94%



of students said yes



BUDDY BACKPACKS WERE SENT HOME EVERY WEEKEND AND HOLIDAY BREAK WITH STUDENTS IN:

Aurora

- Mesabi East School
- Pre-School
- Head Start

Babbitt

- Northeast Range School
- Head Start

Cherry

- Cherry School

Chisholm

- Chisholm Elementary
- Chisholm High School
- Vaughan-Steffensrud Elementary School
- Head Start

Cook/Orr

- North Woods School

Culver

- South Ridge School

Ely

- Ely Memorial High School
- Washington Elementary
- Head Start

Floodwood

- Floodwood School

Hibbing

- Greenhaven Elementary
- Hibbing High School
- Lincoln Elementary
- Washington Elementary
- Head Start

Koochiching County

- International Falls Elementary
- International Falls High School
- KOOTASCA Head Start
- Littlefork Big-Falls School
- Northome School

Mountain Iron

- East Range Academy
- Mountain Iron-Buhl High School
- Merritt Elementary
- Head Start

Nashwauk/Keewatin

- Keewatin Elementary
- Nashwauk High School

Nett Lake

- Nett Lake Elementary
- Head Start

Tower

- Tower-Soudan School
- Vermillion Country School

Virginia/Eveleth/Gilbert (Rock Ridge)

- Laurentian Elementary
- North Star Elementary
- Parkview Elementary
- Rock Ridge High School
- Northland Learning Center
- Head Start

BUDDY BACKPACKS WERE AVAILABLE WEEKLY IN SUMMER 2024 AT THE FOLLOWING MEET UP AND CHOW DOWN SITES:

- Biwabik City Park
- Chisholm Kiwanis Park
- Cook Public Library
- Hibbing Bennett Park
- Hibbing HRA Playground
- Hoyt Lakes Public Library
- Keewatin City Park
- Mountain Iron Public Library
- Nashwauk Rec Center
- Virginia AEOA
- Virginia Pine Mill Court
- Virginia Olcott Park



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