

The New Paltz Rotary BackPack Program benefitting the NPCSD

"I like the Backpack Club because there is good food, healthy food, and something new every week. It helps Mom not have to worry about food."

-BackPack Program Participant

Program Description:

The New Paltz Rotary BackPack Program is designed to meet the needs of hungry children on weekends when school breakfasts and lunches aren't available. The Program provides bags filled with food that is child-friendly, non-perishable and easily consumed. Bags are packed each week by New Paltz Rotary volunteers and are discreetly distributed to participating children every Friday afternoon.

Program at a Glance:

- Provides food that is easy for children to recognize and easy to prepare
- Operates for at least 30 weeks during the academic year and for 8 weeks over the summer break.
- Serves the children most in need as determined by school staff who know them best
- Is flexible in design based on each school's capacities and limitations
- Is locally supported by schools, their partners, and generous community members
- Backpack food is typically shared with the family, which helps meet the nutritional needs of the entire household



22-23 New Paltz Rotary BackPack Program Impact



2,342
BackPacks
provided



18,360 meals
distributed



~70 Students
supplied each
week



Average bag
weighs 10lbs,
containing
food for 6-7
meals

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Food Bank of the
Hudson Valley

