

POWER PACKS POST

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Some of our "regulars" here at Power Packs HQ!

APRIL SHOWERS BRING... VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION!

April is National Volunteer Month and for us here at Power Packs, it couldn't be a more perfect time to say **THANK YOU** to all of our amazing volunteers. We really could not do this without them!

PLATINUM SEAL OF TRANSPARENCY

You might have seen on our social media that we've been awarded GuideStar's Platinum Seal of Transparency. This is an exciting moment for our nonprofit and we are proud to share this with our donors and volunteers!



We are proud to announce we're platinum!



Volunteers at our Lancaster Warehouse + HQ!

ADDRESS FOR ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Our new address is:

1915 Olde Homestead Lane
Suite 102
Lancaster, PA 17601

Thank you!

NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In 1991, April became National Volunteer Month as part of President George W. Bush's 1,000 Points of Light Campaign. It is a time to recognize the importance of volunteers and the impact they make in our communities.

At Power Packs, we are blessed to have incredibly dedicated volunteers who selflessly give their time to make a difference in the lives of children in our community. Our amazing volunteers do a variety of tasks for us, always with a smile on their face. They selflessly give their valuable time and talents to help us achieve our mission and their helping hands are a critical part of our operations. The significant contribution they make by donating their time allows Power Packs to save on labor costs

and devote more money to providing nutrition to children and their families.

More importantly, by extending a helping hand, our awesome volunteers inspire hope - hope for better days ahead for the families we serve. The healthy meals we provide families enriches their bodies, and the hope we provide nourishes their soul and helps calm anxieties about food insecurity and how they can put food on the table. That hope is truly priceless.

We can't begin to thank our volunteers enough, and I know they really don't want platitudes. We struggle to find volunteers who are willing to be highlighted in this newsletter, like Warren and Kathrine Hoopes, who you will read about later. They have been actively volunteering with children's organizations for 14 years, but don't really want recognition. They just want to help.

Despite their protests, this month we will recognize our wonderful volunteers. Each volunteer inspires us to do more and fills our hearts with joy. To our volunteers, thank you for everything you do for Power Packs, for the children and families we serve, and for our community. We truly could not do what we do without you and we are enormously grateful for each of you. I will leave you with one of my favorite volunteer quotes:

"There is no better exercise for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up."

- John Holmes

Brad Peterson, Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Peterson'.

RED NOSE DAY AT REIDENBAUGH ELEMENTARY

Thank you to Lizzette Anders and all who participated in the drive for Red Nose Day at Reidenbaugh Elementary school! Lizzette coordinated a monetary and food drive and we are so thankful for our community partners and local schools. The picture on the right is our Executive Director, Brad Peterson, receiving the donations from Lizzette. Thank you!

MEET DANIEL BIERMAN

Welcome to the PPP Staff: Daniel Bierman!

Daniel is our new Lancaster Food Distribution and Warehouse Coordinator. We are so excited to add him to our team.

Daniel comes to us from Boundtree Medical and has an extensive past in warehousing. We are thankful for his knowledge and expertise!

He chose to work for PPP because he said he loves that he can give back daily as his profession! Two fun facts about Daniel: his favorite food is a cheeseburger and if he won the lottery, he'd immediately travel the world!

Welcome, Daniel! We're so glad you joined our team!





VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: WARREN & KATHERINE HOOPES

Q: When did you start volunteering with PPP?

A: Katherine and Warren have been involved with PPP in Lebanon for about 5 years! They got their start with the Kid Link Program with St. Lukes.

Q: Why did you choose PPP?

A: Through their work with Kid Link, they knew they wanted to help students in schools. The Hoopes have been volunteering with Kid Link for over 14 years now! Kid Link helped set up PPP at Harding Elementary in 2016!

Q: What is your favorite part of volunteering with PPP?

A: Both agree that their favorite part of volunteering is interacting with others in the community, whether that is the families PPP serves, the staff at our partner schools, or the other volunteers themselves! They are impressed with the faithfulness of all PPP volunteers and the PPP families!

Q: Do you volunteer with other organizations?

A: Katherine is heavily involved in community service and volunteers with Kid Link through St. Lukes and the Episcopal Church Women Volunteer Group. Both Warren and Katherine enjoy volunteering with Harmonia, a community music association group.

Q: What is one interesting fact about you?

A: Warren has been a United Methodist Minister for 50+ years!
Katherine has been playing the violin for over 80 years since she was 7 years old!

Q: Anything else you'd like to add?

A: Both Katherine and Warren would like to share their concerns with keeping Power Packs Project alive and running for those who need it. They have seen the impact that PPP has and they would love to see it expand further and continue its mission!

MOUNTVILLE SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION DONATION

Thank you to the Mountville Youth Association Softball League members Bradley and Cooper for dropping off an amazing assortment of food items for Power Packs to distribute to our families. We are so thankful for awesome community partners like the MYASL!



DO YOU WANT TO HOLD A FOOD DRIVE FOR US?

Lately, we have had a lot of corporations reach out to us, wanting to help in some way. We are still strictly following COVID 19 safety protocols, which limit our volunteer capacities. Another way to help out is to host a Food Drive. For both the Thanksgiving and Christmas time holiday food boxes, we held food drives to collect specific items that we needed that were very expensive to source otherwise. We had an overwhelming response, and it was a great way for corporations or community groups to help

Power Packs and give back to their community in a COVID 19 safe manner. We are excited to continue this, so if your group is looking to hold a food drive, email Liz@powerpacksproject.org to find out if there are any specific items we are looking to source for future boxes! We hope to host bigger volunteer groups once we are through with this virus!

WALGREENS PARTNERSHIP



Walgreens announced a new way for customers to donate their cash rewards to local charities in their communities. PPP is proud to partner with Walgreens! Running through May 31st, found out how to donate your rewards by visiting myWalgreens.com



STAY AT HOME GALA

We are excited to announce our 11th annual Stay At Home Gala will be May 15th. This event is our largest fundraiser and we are proud to continue the tradition. For more information, visit powerpacksproject.org/sahg

DATES OF DISTRIBUTION

Our last distribution of the school year is:
May 26th & 27th

Our summer program will run:
June 23rd - August 11th

Contact Annette at Annette@powerpacksproject.org for more information on our Summer Program in Lancaster, or Caitlin at Caitlin@powerpacksproject.org for Lebanon!



Thank you for reading! Find more pictures on our social media pages and look for our next edition in the next Quarter!