POWER PACKS POST
a semi-quarterly e-publishing | issue 4 | August 2021

LOOKING FOR A PART TIME JOB?
Want to work for an awesome nonprofit? We are looking for a part-time Lebanon/Lancaster Warehouse Associate.

WE ARE HIRING
Read the job description: powerpacksproject.org/careers

IT’S ALMOST TIME FOR BACK TO SCHOOL!
With just one week left in Summer Distribution, we are already looking forward to Fall Enrollment for our School Year Distribution. Can you believe it is August?

FRESH MILK IS BACK AGAIN!
You might have seen on our social media that we are partnering with Harrisburg Dairies to bring our families fresh milk every other week for summer distribution. We’re excited to continue this into the fall!

ADDRESS FOR ALL CORRESPONDENCE
Our address is:
1915 Olde Homestead Lane
Suite 102
Lancaster, PA 17601

Thank you!

Dan the milk man!
Growing up, my summers were filled with wiffle ball games, swimming, and summer camps. But for many kids, summer isn’t a time of carefree days. It is a time of hunger. Without the breakfasts and lunches provided by schools, many hardworking parents are struggling to provide the nutrition their children need.

At Power Packs, we help bridge the summer meal gap facing families with our Summer Program. As we do during the school year, healthy meals are provided during the summer to ensure children are receiving the nutrition they need to grow and prosper.

Power Packs’ Summer Program isn’t new, but for the first time, this summer we’ve invited families to pick up packs at our warehouse if their school isn’t participating in the Summer Program. Quite a few families are taking advantage and it has given us the opportunity to meet some of the families and get to know them.

The mother of one family told us this week of their struggles. She and her husband both work full-time and she works third shift so one of them can always be home with their young children. With the income from their jobs, they are just above the threshold for SNAP benefits and other assistance programs, but they struggle to makes ends meet. She was so appreciative of Power Packs, telling us she wasn’t sure what they would do without the food they receive. Her children were with her, and they were so anxious to see what they were receiving this week.

As a Power Packs supporter, these are the families you are assisting. Working together, we are changing the lives of children by providing meals they may not have otherwise. Thank you!

Brad Peterson, Executive Director
Meet our Board Treasurer: Karen Shenk!

Karen Shenk is our Board Treasurer and has been on the Board since 2017. She first heard of Power Packs Project through a fellow partner at Trout CPA. Her favorite memory with Power Packs is when we opened the new warehouse and office in Greenfield Business Park. While we were grateful for the space we had before, we needed something that would provide more autonomy and security!

Karen lives in downtown Lancaster with her husband and 3 sons! She loves reading and running marathons.

Thank you, Karen, for all your hard work for Power Packs Project!

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH STUDY

We've partnered with Georgetown University as they're conducting a multi-year long research project into Food Insecurity by studying and surveying Power Packs participants. They recently published an article with their findings, you can find a link to read it on our social media. It includes lots of interesting facts like this: "This research confirmed that Power Packs is reaching the most vulnerable families, alleviating their anxiety about food, and reducing the incidence of undereating and meal skipping."
Moravian Manor has once again held a food and monetary donation drive for us! We are so thankful for community partners like MM, they are the lifeblood of our organization. See right for a picture with our Executive Director and the organizers of the MM Drive, Bob Newell and Jennifer Shutt!

The Lancaster Barnstormers are hosting a Back to School Food Drive for Power Packs Project! Come to the games September 7-12 and find Power Packs staff and volunteers with barrels to collect your non-perishable food donations. Things like peanut butter, canned chicken, canned tuna, soup, and similar items are always needed and appreciated. 3 games are against the York Revolution and 3 games are against the Long Island Ducks. See you at Clipper Stadium!
Wittel Farms is a ministry project between The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania, the Lower Susquehanna Synod ELCA, and Hunger-Free Lancaster County which reclaims a portion of the acreage gifts to the LCC for its original use, farming. The crops harvested are donated to local families in need, and we think that’s fantastic! We get farm-fresh produce from Wittel Farms to share with our Power Packs Families, now that’s local!

Our last distribution of the summer is:
August 11th & 12th

Our school year program will start:
September 22nd & 23rd

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

Food insecurity affects 1 in 6 children in our community.

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

Come see us at the 2021 WJTL Kid’s Cookie Break Fest on August 28th at the Junction Center. Find tickets at thejunctioncenter.com