

April 17, 2022

Mr. Larry Baker

National Machinery Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 747

Tiffin, Ohio, USA

Re: Tiffin Community YMCA Food Program

Dear Mr. Baker:

I appreciate the time you took to visit the Tiffin Community YMCA. I hope that you enjoyed the tour of the facility, as well as learning more about our food program. The YMCA has been able to service over 400 low-income children by providing weekend and holiday meals through the food program (YMCA Tiffin Branch, 2022).

We at the YMCA are aware that National Machinery is responsible for providing grants to many areas of the community to help sustain not only the city itself, but the people residing within it. Thus, we would like to apply for a grant so that we may strengthen our food program.

The mission of the food program is to provide nourishment for students that come from low-income families. Many times, these students' only opportunity for a meal is at school. The food program utilizes the help of volunteers to bag and distribute food to the local elementary schools for those children that qualify for the program. The food is meant to sustain the students through weekends, as well as summer and holiday breaks.

Of the 17,953 Tiffin residents 13.6% are living in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau, 2022). Overall, this number may not seem like a lot, but no one should endure poverty, especially children. Over 400 students in Tiffin are taking advantage of the food program. Not only is it the goal of the food program to nourish the students physically, but it is also the hope to nourish the kids educationally. We want the students to do better in school as a result of being properly nourished and not being focused on where their next meal is going to come from.

Given that National has proven to help the community, including the YMCA itself many times, we look forward to working with you on this project. Anytime we can get a local company to invest in the community, it is much appreciated. I would like to extend my gratitude to you and the National Machinery Foundation, Inc. I look forward to hearing from you, my personal contact information is as follows: 251-XXX-XXXX, and the contact for the YMCA is 419-XXX-XXXX

Sincerely,

Maysen Matthews

Food Program Volunteer

180 Summit Street

Tiffin, Ohio 44883

**Tiffin Community YMCA Food Program: Providing  
Nourishment to Students in Need**

**Submitted to:** National Machinery Foundation, Inc.

**Date:** April 17, 2022

**Maysen Matthews  
Food Program Volunteer  
Tiffin Community YMCA  
180 Summit Street  
Tiffin, OH 44883  
419-XXX-XXXX**

Property of Maysen Matthews

# **Tiffin Community YMCA Food Program: Providing Nourishment to Students in Need**

## **Project Abstract**

The Tiffin Community YMCA is seeking a grant for our Food Program. The program services roughly 450 low-income students, by providing food for students to take home during weekends, holidays, and summer break. The purpose of the program is to end childhood hunger in the community by offering assistance to those families in need. The objective is to enroll all eligible students into the program, and help them nourish not only their bodies, but their brains as well. Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is requested to aid in the purchasing of non-perishable food to distribute to the students.

## **Statement of Need**

For many students the lunches provided by schools are the only meals they receive each day. Over 400 children in the city of Tiffin, Ohio are faced with not having enough or any food at home to sustain them (YMCA Tiffin Branch, 2022). Most of these children, if not all, come from a household with only one parent, and therefore only one income. In Ohio there are 17,451 children affected by hunger as a result of only getting meals throughout the week at school. Though the numbers in Tiffin, and in Ohio in general, are nowhere near the 1.4 million afflicted students nationwide, they are in no way less important (Mosby, 2020).

The biggest contributing factor to students not having enough to eat outside of school is income.

Less than 20% of adults in Tiffin have a bachelor's degree, or any education higher than that.

Though 92.3% of adults have a high school diploma or equivalent, it does not allot for many job opportunities that could sustain a household. 13.6% of people living in Tiffin are living in poverty. Though that may seem like a relatively small portion of the population, which is around 17,953, to these impoverished families it is an issue they would like to resolve (U.S. Census Bureau, 2022)

The Tiffin Community YMCA has been aiding those children in need of food for several years now. The YMCA purchases food and then makes weekend bags for children from low-income families, so that they have the opportunity to have meals when they are not in school. The YMCA also offers the food program during holiday breaks, as well as summer vacation. The YMCA has provided food for over 450 students in the Tiffin community (YMCA Tiffin Branch, 2022). With more funding the Tiffin Community YMCA could attend to even more children that apply to be in the food program, as well as maintain their product supply; additionally, the food program could branch from helping the Tiffin community to also helping neighboring communities as well.

### **Program Description**

The Tiffin Community YMCA Food Program gives low-income students a sense of security. They will not have to worry about not getting the nourishment they need, but instead will hold on to the knowledge that they will be given the opportunity to receive food to nourish their bodies and brain.

### **Goals and Objectives**

The mission of my project program is to end childhood hunger in my community. I will do this by participating in the food program that the Tiffin Community YMCA hosts. The food program

benefits children in the community who only get the opportunity to have meals at school.

Volunteers bag non-perishable food items for each qualifying student, and then the food is delivered to the local elementary schools and distributed to each child enrolled in the program.

The food is meant to sustain the children through weekends as well as holiday and summer breaks.

1. Provide nourishment to over 400 low-income students in Tiffin by accumulating volunteers to bag and distribute non-perishable food to the students in need.
2. Ensure that students are efficient in school as a result of being nourished and satiated, which can be monitored through test score data.

## **Budget**

The average school lunch is \$2.68 (School Meal Trends and Stats, 2022). There are about 199 days in which the students are not in school (World Schools, 2021). These days encompass weekends, holidays, and summer breaks. If we were to account for all these breaks and package the meals according to the average cost of meals the estimate would be roughly \$533.32 per student.

The YMCA services over 450 children, so that would be about \$239,994 a year to feed the eligible students if we used the pricing guide according to the school; however, purchasing non-perishable foods to bag as meals for these students will not equate to \$2.68 per meal. According to the budget the total cost to feed the students for the year would be \$239,335.24, which is close to what I had calculated if we went according to the school systems, and well within the original budgeting calculations.

| <b>Non-Perishable Meal Staples</b> | <b>Average Cost</b>     | <b>Bulk Cost</b>         | <b>Amount needed weekly to supply 450 Students</b> | <b>Cost per Weekend, Holiday/Summer Breaks</b> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Oatmeal</b>                     | <b>\$3.12 per 20 ct</b> | <b>\$9.88 per 52 ct</b>  | <b>9 Boxes</b>                                     | <b>\$17,695.08</b>                             |
| <b>Mac &amp; Cheese</b>            | <b>\$4.74 per 4 ct</b>  | <b>\$9.72 per 12 ct</b>  | <b>38 Boxes</b>                                    | <b>\$17,100</b>                                |
| <b>Granola Bars</b>                | <b>\$2.84 per 24 ct</b> | <b>\$8.48 per 60 ct</b>  | <b>8 Boxes</b>                                     | <b>\$13,500.16</b>                             |
| <b>Sandwich Crackers</b>           | <b>\$2.48 per 8 ct</b>  | <b>\$7.34 per 40 ct</b>  | <b>12 Boxes</b>                                    | <b>\$17,527.92</b>                             |
| <b>Fruit Cups</b>                  | <b>\$6.48 per 12 ct</b> | <b>\$9.98 per 24 ct</b>  | <b>19 Boxes</b>                                    | <b>\$37,734.38</b>                             |
| <b>Veggie Cups</b>                 | <b>\$1.94 per 4 ct</b>  | <b>N/A</b>               | <b>113 Boxes</b>                                   | <b>\$43,624.78</b>                             |
| <b>Powdered Milk</b>               | <b>\$2.98 per 3 ct</b>  | <b>\$14.98 per 22 ct</b> | <b>21 Boxes</b>                                    | <b>\$62,601.42</b>                             |
| <b>Raisins</b>                     | <b>\$1.98 per 6 ct</b>  | <b>N/A</b>               | <b>75 Boxes</b>                                    | <b>\$29,551.50</b>                             |

**Yearly Total: \$239,335.24**

### **Evaluation**

According to statistics students are likely to suffer grade wise when they are hungry at school. 46% of low-income students who suffer from hunger do poorly in school (Gunn, 2020). In order to evaluate whether the program is making a significant difference, analyzing the scores of the affected children will be how the data is collected. If the students that are a part of the food program are doing better in school because they are no longer being distracted by hunger, then we will have evidence that the program is working to make the lives of the students better.

To collect the data, scores need to be recorded at the beginning of the school year and then rerecorded at the end of a period of time. For example, scores could be rerecorded at the end of the first quarter, or to see if there is even more significant progress wait until the end of the second quarter, which in turn would be the end of the first semester. Once the data has been collected and analyzed, the outcome will determine the effectiveness of the food program on the students in the community. If the data does not show the desired results, which would be the majority of the enrolled students being proficient in their studies, then perhaps there may be

other underlying issues that are causing the students to not do well. Nonetheless, the Tiffin Community YMCA will continue to serve the students of Tiffin, as no child should go hungry.

## Appendix

### References

### References

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