

President's Annual Report 2012-2013

The 2012-2013 school year saw few changes for the Seneca Falls BackPack Program, Inc. Our relationship with Foodlink remained the same as did our relationship with our district schools. Our Board of Directors remained stable and we added the Seneca Falls School District principals as de facto members to further improve our relationship with our local schools. We improved our program structure by creating easy-to-follow operational guidelines for each position of responsibility in the program. We also broadened our fundraising base by becoming a United Way sponsored organization as well as successfully applying for private grants and donations from area donors such as the Galasso Foundation, Seneca Falls Rotary Club, Wal-Mart, and Seneca Meadows Landfill. We participated in Foodlink-sponsored trainings on nutrition and food safety and attended the Foodlink Community Food Conference which was helpful in providing tips on how to fine tune our program. Finally we collaborated with and donated food bags to the Seneca Falls Summer Feeding Program, which continues our shared mission through the summer months.

There are challenges we still need to address. Among them, increased fundraising as Foodlink's grant participation declines as well as program modifications to accommodate the higher food bag prices. We also face a potential school district merger which would impact our services greatly. As we look ahead, we acknowledge the success of feeding food insecure children over the weekends of the past school year.

Respectfully Submitted to the Board of Directors on 8/27/2013,

Anne A. Wilkes
President; Seneca Falls BackPack Program, Inc.