

Needy children receive backpacks, school supplies

by *Bend_Weekly_News_Sources*

Redmond, Ore - The Redmond School District's Homeless Education Program was chosen as a recipient of the Feed the Children SchoolKidz USA program. The district was selected in part due to the strong partnership between their homeless education program and the Family Access Network (FAN).

Thursday morning a semi truck with over 3,500 backpacks filled with school supplies, hygiene items and non-perishable food items rolled into the school district's warehouse.

Through coordination with FAN, over 18 school districts, homeless liaisons, and community partners arrived Thursday and today to take back to their schools and offices backpacks for distribution to their most vulnerable and at-risk students. The homeless liaison from Lane County alone serves over 12 rural school districts.

"Being a part of this amazing program from Feed the Children will allow us to not only serve our homeless student population, but reach even more children throughout the district with supplies," states Melinda Ennis, Redmond School District Homeless Liaison. "With all the difficulties children and parents have to worry about, having a new backpack and school supplies shouldn't and isn't going to be one of them."

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