*BCWB turns hunger for food into hunger to LEARN!*

# Annual Report
# 2024

## A community working together to meet the challenge of
## Keeping Children Fed Over the Weekend

Brown County Weekend Backpacks, Inc. is a community-led, all-volunteer 501(c)3 organization whose goal is keeping hungry children fed with nutritious food all weekend long. We receive no government monies and rely on donations from members of our community. The total cost of food to serve these children in 2024 was $35,218! We are thankful some of the food was donated by 15 Brown County organizations and individuals.

Children who do not eat regular, nutritious meals are more likely to be in poor health, have developmental issues and struggle to learn in school.[1] The Brown County Weekend Backpacks program helps children get through the weekends by providing food bags containing 6 nutritious, easy-to-prepare meals—plus snacks—to students struggling with hunger so they can return to school on Monday ready to learn.





*Some of our many volunteers, shown here packing food bags for delivery to hungry children.*

[1] *Feeding America Website*

# 2024 Program by the Numbers

**349**
Hungry Kids served

**3,761**
Food Backpacks delivered

**22,566**
Weekend Meals supplied

**12.7**
Tons of Food delivered

**$35,218**
Value of Food delivered to families

# Touch-A-Truck Fundraiser

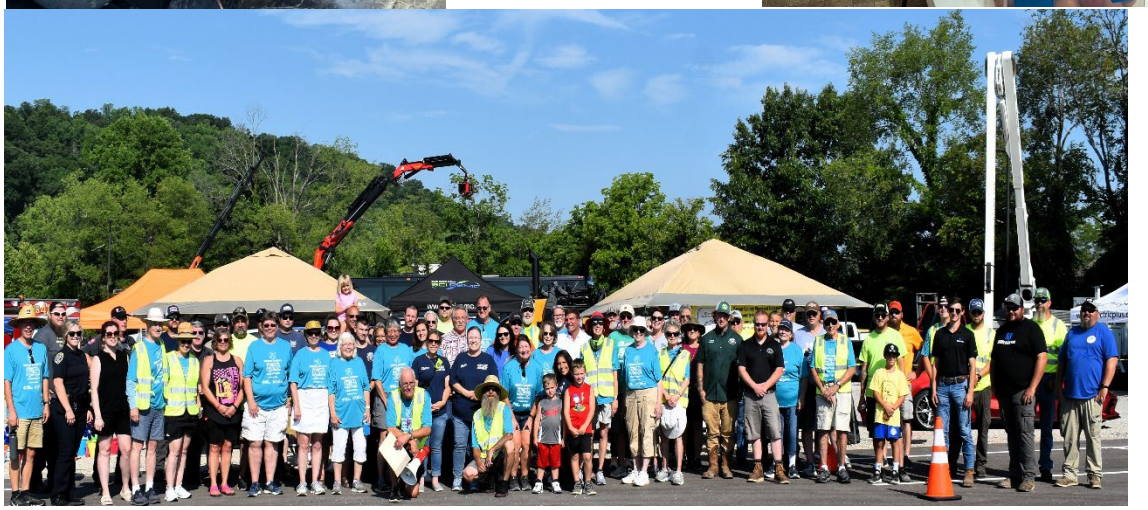
Touch-A-Truck was a huge success this last summer. We brought in over $25,000 from wonderful sponsors and those attending the event! Mark your calendars for June 28, 2025, for our next Touch-A-Truck event.



*Left: Two TAT attendees experience a giant tractor.*

*Right: C&C Equipment is a corporate sponsor and helped us pack food.*

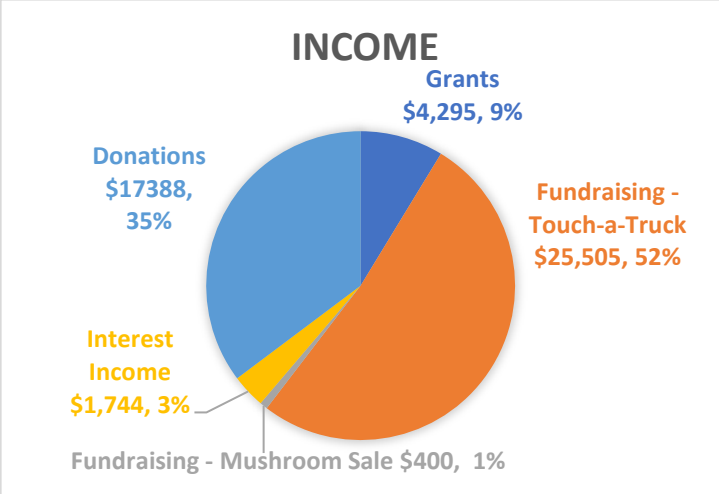


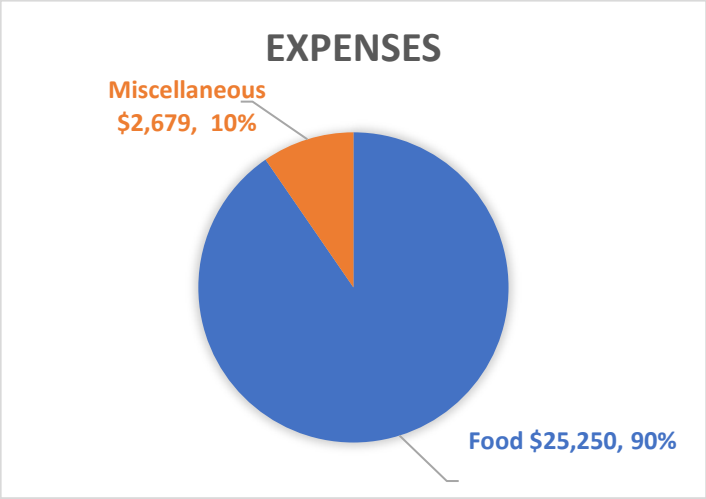


*Left: TAT volunteers pause for a group photo. What a fun <u>and</u> beautiful day!*

# Financial Results

Our 2024 financial results were strong, thanks to a dedicated group of donors and event sponsors! Thanks to them, we were able to improve the quality and health of the food we packed—reducing sodium, increasing vitamins and minerals, and adding fresh fruit and shelf-stable milk. These changes increased our food costs, but by delivering healthier and more of the most-requested foods, we anticipate more food being eaten, and better health outcomes for our kids.




# Sample Weekend Meals

Participating students receive a backpack with 6 meals plus snacks each week. Menus are developed to meet balanced nutritional guidelines. Menus rotate each week throughout the month.

| | |
|---|---|
| Breakfast: | 1 cereal<br>1 juice<br>1 hot chocolate<br>1 oatmeal<br>1 shelf stable milk |
| Lunch: | 1 peanut butter<br>1 package crackers<br>1 tomato soup<br>1 applesauce |
| Dinner: | 1 package mac & cheese<br>1 can mixed vegetables<br>1 can spaghetti/meatballs<br>1 package cookies |
| Snack: | 2 fresh fruit<br>1 snack |

# 2024 Board of Directors

| | |
|---|---|
| Jan Swigert, President | swigertbj@gmail.com |
| Sally Sanders, V. President | sallysanders1616@gmail.com |
| Gloria Berryman, Secretary | gloriaeberryman@gmail.com |
| Mark Lindenlaub, Treasurer | mark.lindenlaub@gmail.com |
| Debbie Kelley, Fundraising | debbiejokelley14@gmail.com |
| Teresa Brown, Fundraising | brown-meadows@sbcglobal.net |
| Tim Kelley, Fundraising | timothyjoekelley@gmail.com |
| Sandy Higgins, Distribution | higginsoffice@yahoo.com |
| Wendi Gore, Distribution | wgore@browncountyschools.com |
| Donna Niednagel, Volunteers | dniednagel@comcast.net |
| Yvonne Oliger, Volunteers | yvonne.oliger@gmail.com |
| Linda Todd, Food Collections | ljtodd@gmail.com |
| Adeana Colvin, At-Large | Acolvinreads@gmail.com |

*Contact: Brown County Weekend Backpacks*
*P.O. Box 160, Nashville, IN 47448-0160*
*www.bcweekendbackpacks.org*