



Sioux Empire United Way

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For Immediate Release

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United Way Provides Additional Funds to Backpack Program

Sioux Falls, SD – Sioux Empire United Way’s Board of Directors approved additional funds for the local Backpack Program at their regular meeting on Tuesday. The board’s approval of \$17,336 is in addition to originally approved funds of \$225,000.

“Sioux Empire United Way strives to meet the needs of our community through the generosity of our givers,” said Rick Hull, United Way’s Community Impact Division Chair. “These additional funds will enable the Backpack Program to provide food for the weekend to their current waiting list of 197 children for the remainder of the school year.”

The Backpack program currently serves 2,750 children in Sioux Falls and several surrounding communities. The additional funds will bring the total number of children served to 2,947.

Matt Gassen, Executive Director of Feeding South Dakota, commented, “As we pause with family and friends to give thanks for all that we have, Feeding South Dakota’s Backpack Program has yet another reason to be thankful. The announcement that the Sioux Empire United Way Board of Directors is going to fund 197 children who are currently on a waiting list is absolutely wonderful news. For these children who struggle to have enough food to eat on the weekends, this gift will be life changing and provide them the opportunity to live, learn and grow. On behalf of these 197 children we say thank you.”

The Backpack Program is one of 97 partner programs of Sioux Empire United Way. For more information regarding Sioux Empire United Way, please visit www.seuw.org or call 605-336-2095.

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