

Subject: Important Update on Pack It Up (PIU) – Fall 2025

Dear friends and partners,

For over 12 years, *Pack It Up* (PIU) has been a vital part of caring for students in the Coopersville Area Public Schools, providing more than **245,000 meals** to children in need. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our volunteers, the support of our schools, and the care of our community.

After much prayer and evaluation, we have made the decision to **pause PIU for the upcoming fall semester**. This is not an easy choice, but it is a necessary one. We recognize that today's realities and economics require us to **retool the program** so that it can remain sustainable and effective for the years ahead.

During this time, we will be:

- Reorganizing and streamlining our processes
- Actively recruiting volunteers
- Determining the most effective way to continue meeting student needs
- Partnering with **Coopersville Cares** to better leverage community food resources

In addition, if there are families that need a replacement for the food they will not be receiving from PIU, please have them contact Coopersville Cares and they have agreed to help out these families. Reach out to Coopersville Cares via coopcares4u@gmail.com or 616.997.8602.

Our commitment remains the same: ensuring that kids in our district have access to the food they need. This pause is temporary, and we believe it will allow us to come back **stronger, more efficient, and better equipped** to serve.

We are deeply grateful for your continued partnership, patience, and support. We invite you to a meeting on **Monday, September 8 @ 6PM**, held at Faith Community Church of Coopersville (105 N 68th Ave), to gather your input and begin planning what PIU will look like starting in 2026. We'll keep you updated as plans develop, and we look forward to relaunching PIU in a way that creates the greatest possible impact.

With gratitude and hopefulness,

Pastor Cori Conran

Pack It Up (PIU)