



# Food Bank of WNY

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### **Food Bank of WNY Backpack Students Receive New Books C&S Wholesale Grocers and First Book Deliver For Youth in Need**

**Buffalo, NY, Tuesday, June 26, 2012** — As the school year ends, Food Bank of WNY Backpack Program students recently received something a little extra in their take-home bags.

Support from Erie Logistics, LLC, an affiliate of C&S Wholesale Grocers, Inc., and First Book, a nonprofit organization that makes brand-new, free and low-cost books available to community programs serving children in need, enabled seven area Backpack schools to obtain new books for their students. The participating schools selected more than 2,000 books and distributed them to over 600 enrolled Backpack students. Each student took home at least three new books when school let out for summer vacation.

“Traditionally, the Backpack Program has provided nutritious food to students in need. This collaboration with First Book allows us the opportunity to offer these children educational resources as well,” said Agency Grants and Youth Programs Team Leader, Stephanie Lawson. “Moreover, teachers and faculty can continue to utilize First Book to purchase age-appropriate books for a low price.”

Many children who rely on free and/or reduced price school meals may be left without an adequate supply of nutritious food on the weekends or when school is closed. The Backpack Program assists these students by providing easily prepared, nutritious food in bags each week throughout the school year.

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The Food Bank's BackPack program currently operates in seven schools including Community Charter School, Global Concepts Charter School, Hamlin Park School 74, Highgate Heights School 80, Lovejoy Discovery School 43, South Buffalo Charter School and Southside Elementary School 93.

### **About C&S Wholesale Grocers**

C&S Wholesale Grocers of Keene, N.H. is the largest food wholesaler and according to Forbes magazine, the 9th largest privately held company in the United States. The company distributes food to supermarkets, retail stores and military bases across the country. Currently, C&S serves about 3,900 stores from more than 50 locations in 11 states. Among our customers are many of America's best known companies, including Stop & Shop, Giant of Carlisle, Giant of Landover, Shaw's, Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. (A&P), Ralphs, Safeway and Target.

C&S community involvement programs support initiatives to stop hunger and to promote the health and enrichment of communities that are home to the company's employees and facilities.

### **About First Book**

First Book has provided more than 90 million books and educational resources to programs and schools serving children from low-income families throughout the United States and Canada. By making new, high-quality books available on an ongoing basis, First Book is transforming the lives of children in need and elevating the quality of education. For more information, please visit [www.firstbook.org](http://www.firstbook.org) or follow their latest news on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

### **About Food Bank of WNY**

The Food Bank of WNY, Inc. is the primary hunger relief organization in Western New York, obtaining and then distributing food to 350 member agencies such as pantries, shelters, soup kitchens, after school programs and senior citizen centers. Through those agencies the Food Bank services nearly 36,356 families. A staggering 101,264 individuals rely on our services each and every month, including more than 41,000 children and 9,406 senior citizens. The Food Bank of WNY, Inc. is one of approximately 200 members of Feeding America, the nation's food bank network.