



MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST 2016 FEED THE KIDS COALITION



In July, our Mission of the Month supported the mission to children in Laotchikit, Haiti, providing food, education, and spiritual nourishment. This month's mission focuses on the children here in Henderson County, specifically the at-risk children who attend the after school program provided by the Boys and Girls Club. The information below is taken from their website.



***Feed the Kids is a 501(c) (3)** which is comprised of teams from many faith-based and civic organizations in Henderson County who care about the health and welfare of our local children. Feed the Kids began in early 2009 to provide 120 children at the Boys & Girls Club of Henderson County with a hot nutritious meal each week. The program has also provided lunches for 5 days during the summer when we began. We now feed approximately 300 kids every Friday afternoon and have provided about 10 days of lunches when the government program starts back up for the new school year.*



Volunteers handle fundraising, purchasing supplies, preparing and serving meals, obtain donations from local produce providers and individuals, and share our story throughout the community.

For volunteers, our program also provides a means to give to others and make a difference in the lives of local children. Both the kids and the volunteers have made new friends throughout the process.



What We Do Has Impact

The hunger crisis in Henderson County is bigger than most people realize. Last year, 92% of the Club members were eligible for the National School Lunch Program, which determines eligibility based on family household income. That compares to 55% of students countywide who are eligible during the 2013 – 2014 school year. Many do not have a hot meal from Friday lunch until Monday morning breakfast. In fact, 49.1 million Americans – including nearly 17 million children – lack the means to regularly put enough nutritious food on the table.

What is the impact of alleviating childhood hunger?

In the United States, more than one out of five children lives in a household with food insecurity, which means they do not always know where they will find their next meal. Insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. The immature immune systems of young children make them especially vulnerable to nutritional deprivation and as a result, the ability to learn, grow and fight infections is adversely affected.



Your contribution towards Feed the Kids Coalition will help provide food and other supplies to continue this good work.