

CAPE CORAL YOUTH COUNCIL – BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK COMMUNITY PROJECT

The City of Cape Coral Youth Council has been working overtime to help feed our local schools' food insecure children who would not have been able to eat outside of school hours. As the home to part of the estimated 13 million food insecure children in the United States, our Youth Council collaborated with national non- profit Blessings in a Backpack, to help provide food to those youth on the weekends. By hosting fundraising movie events in our parks, we have acted on our deep disgust with the conditions that some of our own classmates have endured as mere children. Through our unique position within the city, we combined the insight and deep concern with the plight of school- aged children that has fueled our desire for this project with both our city's resources and Blessings in a Backpack to help feed our city's most dependent. Since this project's debut event in October 2017, we are humbled in saying that we have raised nearly \$2,500, or enough to feed 25 school kids. Those children will now have food for each 65 hour long weekend for an entire year, whereas they previously did not know if they would eat at all during that stretch of time. We recognize that our dreams coming into fruition only remains possible through this network within not only the City of Cape Coral, but also each of your cities as well. As our own chair, and original head of this project has embodied, we comprehend the positive impacts we can have on our city and are honored to entrust our future Youth Council members with this legacy project.

