



Nourish One Child is an outreach program of Keith Memorial United Methodist Church.

This ministry is a necessary and vital part of our community. It provides children of Athens City Schools, who otherwise would go an entire weekend without a meal, with weekly food bags.

The program was established in 2012 to feed the many children in our local school system who were going hungry

on the weekends. NOC is funded by grants and donations from church and community members. The program, founded by Dixie Liner, is managed, organized and carried out entirely by volunteers who create menus, purchase food, pack the weekly bags and deliver the food bags to the five Athens City Schools.



WHY IS NOC IMPORTANT?



Poverty and near-poverty are significant issues for Athens City. The city of Athens has a population of 13,651 and approximately **39 percent of the families in Athens are at the 185 percent poverty level.** The median income of households in Athens City is \$29,253 and 55.9 percent of the estimated 5,486

households had an income less than \$35,000. Only 17.7 percent of households in Athens have family incomes exceeding \$75,000.*

NOURISH ONE CHILD ...

- Specifically aids in fighting hunger among children in Athens City
- Provides consistent weekend nourishment, in the form of weekly food bags, to hungry children
- Contributes to improved behavior, attentiveness, alertness and overall school readiness
- Increases attendance among children who receive the weekly food bags, especially on Fridays when the bags are distributed. School attendance is an important factor in the long-term success of all children.

**Statistics used were obtained from the US Census Bureau's "2012 – 2016 American Community Survey" Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families S1702 and "2012 – 2016 American Community Survey" 5-Year Estimates DP05 2016.*

NOC FAST FACTS

270 students of Athens City Schools receive the food bags each week

Each bag contains **10-12** nutritious food items, all items are non-perishable and easy to open

The cost of providing one child a weekly food bag for the entire school year is **\$150**

5 volunteers plan weekly menus and purchase foods for the bags

More than **100** volunteers assist in packing weekly food bags throughout the school year

8 volunteers deliver the food bags to the five schools each week

100% of all donations and grants received by Nourish One Child are used to feed hungry children. This program has no other operating costs or expenses beyond the purchase of food.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

DONATE: As the number of children in need of the weekly food bags increases, so do costs associated with maintaining the program. Keith Church is continuously seeking funding for this ministry through individual contributions and grants from businesses and foundations. **Donate online at KeithUMC.org** OR by mailing a check to Keith Church, be sure to include a note or NOC on the check's memo line.

VOLUNTEER: We encourage community groups, organizations and friends to volunteer to assist with packing weekly food bags. Call the Keith Church office at (423) 745-2612 for more information.

SHOP: Support our Nourish One Child ministry every time you shop Amazon! Visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/62-0598121> and you'll automatically be asked if you want to support Keith United Methodist Church.

NOURISH ONE CHILD

% Keith Memorial United Methodist Church
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