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**Backpacks On A Mission Sorters – Service Opportunity With Ministry Partner**

**Time Commitment – 1-2-hours each Tuesday Morning during the Hillsborough County School Year**

*Backpacks On A Mission* Sorters set up tables and sort food to be packed later that afternoon for SSUMC's six partner schools.

*Backpacks On A Mission* celebrates South Shore's commitment to *Salty Service*, which focuses on serving persons outside the church family. For Jesus, the neighbor we should love is anyone in need. We are sent out into the world. We are called to follow Jesus beyond our comfort zones, as his hands and feet and voice. *Salty Servants* are compassionately focused outward beyond themselves, beyond their family, beyond their group. Jesus gave his life "for the whole world," not just for those we know in our congregation; and so, we are sent out as ambassadors of reconciliation, agents of the Kingdom which God desires to give to all God's children.

It is recommended that *Backpacks On A Mission* Sorters feel comfortable lifting/setting up tables in a team and carrying items from the *BOAM* Pantry to the packing tables to be sorted (some bulk items totaling up to 20 pounds). Carts are available to assist with moving items from the pantry to the packing tables.

1. Be in **prayer** for our partner schools and your fellow servants while you work.  
*Example: Lord, bless this day and those who will be nourished in body and soul through this gift of food. Amen.*
2. Arrive at 10:00am on school-year Tuesday mornings.
3. Put up the tables for the food for each of the six schools.
4. Take the food (based on the weekly food listed on the menu) out from the pantry on carts to the sorters at the tables; a list of the students for the week, per school is also placed on the tables.
5. Sorters at each table count and arrange the food for each table, taking care to
  - a. Identify and mark the foods for those students with allergies, and
  - b. Place the applesauce and/or pudding in T-shirt bags and tie them.

If you are interested in learning more about and/or serving with *South Shore Readers*, please begin with prayer, such as

*Lord, guide me in the discernment and investment of my gifts in service to you and your Kingdom through South Shore. Amen.*

Then, connect with Pastor Sarah via [sarah@southshoreumc.com](mailto:sarah@southshoreumc.com).