

Wishlist

We always appreciate donations of these staple items. Thank you!

- Peanut butter/sun butter, 15 oz.
- Pasta sauce, 24 oz. or smaller
- Canned vegetables and beans
- Dried pasta, 16 oz.
- Dried beans, up to 2 lbs.
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Brown grocery bags with handles (Big Y, Trader Joe's, Aldi, Whole Foods, etc.)

Contact Us



FernStreetBackpacks@gmail.com



**433 Fern Street
West Hartford, CT 06107**



**[https://westhartforduu.org/
fern-street-food-ministry/](https://westhartforduu.org/fern-street-food-ministry/)**



Donations are always appreciated!
Give securely online at:

[https://ucwh.breezechms.com/give/
online](https://ucwh.breezechms.com/give/online)

*Please select "Backpack Program"
from the drop-down menu.*



Fern Street Backpacks is a program of Fern Street Food Ministry, a volunteer-led, non-denominational service arm of the Universalist Church of West Hartford. Our mission is to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those experiencing food security, to significantly improve their access to healthy food, and to serve all in the spirit of love, honoring the inherent dignity and worth of every person.



Fern Street Backpack Program





Who We Are

Founded in 2014, Fern Street Backpacks packs and delivers weekend food bags to nearly 200 West Hartford Public School children experiencing food insecurity. We operate throughout the school year across 15 school and library sites, and on a more limited basis during summer breaks.

We are 100% volunteer-run, and receive no town, state, or federal funding. We partner with Connecticut Foodshare, Midwest Food Bank, community groups, and generous donors to help us feed our community's children. Join us!

Get Involved!

● Host a Food Drive

We rely on the generosity of our community to provide food for our program families. Please consider organizing a food drive with your family and friends, neighborhood, workplace, or team!

● Collect Brown Bags

Recycle your brown grocery bags with handles with us. We use 1,600 bags every month to distribute food to families, so every donation helps.

Volunteer

Our volunteers organize food drives, sort inventory, and pack and deliver bags to 15 school and library sites across town.



By the Numbers

27%

of WHPS students are experiencing food insecurity

189

WHPS students participate in the Backpack program

7,000

bags estimated to be distributed in 2025

25

**tons of food
distributed every
year**

