

## **THE ST. JOE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$20,000 TO FOOD FOR THOUGHT OUTREACH**

*Fighting Child Hunger and Improving Quality of Life in Walton County*

In May 2017, The St. Joe Community Foundation awarded \$20,000 to Food for Thought Outreach to assist with backpack funding for the 2017-2018 school year for DeFuniak Springs area students of Walton County. The St. Joe Community Foundation considers their grants in Bay & Walton Counties as investments, not charity or obligations. As such, the Foundation looks for projects in Bay and Walton Counties that promise long-term returns on the quality of life in the region.

“Food For Thought Outreach was recently granted funding for their northern Walton County student food backpack program for students in grades K-12. This program truly assists students that may be struggling with hunger and seeks to promote healthier students,” says Janet Greeno, Executive Director of The St. Joe Community Foundation. “The St. Joe Community Foundation seeks nonprofits that show a track record of success, are structured for sustainability, and work toward a fundamental improvement in the quality of life and Food For Thought Outreach is achieving these goals with their food backpack program.”

“We serve students in both Walton and Okaloosa Counties, but we are seeing an ever-growing demand in Walton County and specifically the DeFuniak Springs area,” says Tiffanie Nelson, Founder & Executive Director of Food For Thought Outreach. “In just the last three years, we’ve added over 1,250 students from 7 schools in DeFuniak alone. We’re so grateful for The St. Joe Community Foundation and their commitment to building healthier communities and we’re happy to be a part of that mission with them.”

Food For Thought provides backpacks filled with healthy, easy to prepare food for students who are dependent on free or reduced school meals. By bridging the gap of missed meals during weekends and holiday breaks, their goal is to support a child’s development and educational experience.

If you or someone you know would like to donate time, funds, or services to Food For Thought Outreach please email [info@ffttl.org](mailto:info@ffttl.org) or visit [ffttl.org](http://ffttl.org)

### ***About Food For Thought Outreach***

Food For Thought is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization based in Santa Rosa Beach, FL that provides backpacks filled with healthy, easy to prepare food for students who are dependent on free or reduced school meals. Our goal is to support a child’s development and educational experience by bridging the gap between school meals during weekends and holiday breaks. Food For Thought has been working to fight child hunger since 2010, and currently serves 27 schools in Walton and Okaloosa Counties, providing backpacks for 2,500 students each week.

For more information, such as donation locations, pantry items needed, and opportunities to volunteer, please email [info@fftl.org](mailto:info@fftl.org).

***About The St. Joe Community Foundation, Inc.***

Education. Healthcare. Environment. Cultural Arts. These are the areas of funding The St. Joe Community Foundation, Inc., provides grants for as these are the areas that provide the greatest long-term returns for those that live, work and play in Bay and Walton Counties.

As a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, The St. Joe Community Foundation, Inc., has pledged and funded over \$18 Million in grants to area nonprofits that care about Northwest Florida as we do. We believe that over time, our grants will continue to impact the quality of life in Northwest Florida for generations to come.

2016 was a banner year for grants with over \$1 Million granted to 87 nonprofits.

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