



# Salinas City Elementary School District

October 2020

**Rebeca Andrade, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent

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Dear Can'd Aid,

What a pleasant surprise to receive **your donation of school supplies to be used for needs of our homeless families!** Thank you so very much for your generosity. It is so deeply appreciated. We value your continued partnership!

Salinas City Elementary School District (pre-school through sixth grade) has two Family Resource Centers that serve both homeless and foster families. **Last school year, our staff identified 3,566 homeless students which translates to 40% of our district.** The data for some previous years is as follows: 17/18= 3,318, 16/17= 3,235, 15/16= 3,118, 13/14=2,849, 12/13= 2,042, 11/12= 1,461, 10/11= 1,039, 09/10 = 537, 08/09 = 308, 07/08 = 261.

Our Family Resource Centers provide students with school clothing or uniforms, a sweater or coat, socks, backpacks, school supplies, personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush/comb, soap/washcloth, etc.), reading books, non-perishable food, etc. to help ensure success and continuity in their educational process.

Parents receive assistance with obtaining shot records, birth certificates, and social security cards to enroll students in school. They are also able to use the computers, fax machine and landline to seek and apply for employment.

Information on additional community resources is also available to these needy families. One of these resources is Dr. Gerald Newmark's book "How to Raise Emotionally Healthy Children." His message of the five critical emotional needs...to feel respected, to feel important, to feel accepted, to feel included and to feel secure not only facilitates communication within the family but is a resource for self-evaluation. Parents receive a copy of this book as well as the document "Becoming a Student of my own Behavior" in order to start the self-reflective process relative to the Five Critical Emotional Needs. This collaborative partnership with the Newmarks compliments a comprehensive program of family and community involvement to increase overall student success.

**Hope is also an important aspect of what our Family Resource Centers provide to these families in need.** Hope creates an idea that goals can be achieved. The Center provides a seed of hope to the children creating a desire in them to do their best in school and understand that they too have an opportunity to go to college, to have a career, and to end the poverty they are experiencing as children when they are adults. This supporting environment helps children to understand their self-worth and heighten their self-esteem. The program offers a truth to homeless and foster children that they desperately need to know. This truth is that every child in America has a right and the opportunity to achieve their dreams through education.

Many homeless and foster children fall behind in school. This creates frustration in the children, the feeling of inadequacy, truancy, anger, and a downhill slope in self-esteem and school grades. It is the goal of our program to lift these children up by providing them with basic school supplies, programs and support that will level the field for them at school and beyond.

Just like many other organizations we have also received extreme budget cuts. We had reached out to you for the sake of our homeless & foster children in Salinas. **Your collaborative efforts have provided us with a generous donation of \$ 3,126.67 worth of school supplies. This has gone specifically towards our district's collaborative, community efforts to promote the Family Resource Center and its client services for our homeless and foster youth. Partners like you help us to make a difference in the lives of people in great need. For that and your heart we are so very thankful.**

We are so touched by all your warmth and love of the community.  
**You are making an impact...more than you know.** Once again, thank you so very much!

With blessings,

**Cheryl Camany and FRC team**  
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[ccamany@salinascity.k12.ca.us](mailto:ccamany@salinascity.k12.ca.us)

**Family Resource Center**  
Homeless Liaison, Teacher on Special Assignment  
"Lending Families a Hand Through Information, Referrals and Programs"  
[www.salinascitysd.org/family-resource-center](http://www.salinascitysd.org/family-resource-center)

**Salinas City Elementary School District**  
840 South Main Street  
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Fed. Tax EIN #77-0320714

See SCESD's Homeless Education Program featured on CBS Evening News.  
<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/05/13/eveningnews/main6481228.shtml>

