



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Sullivan County

Nicole Slevin
Communications Manager
nas96@cornell.edu
64 Ferndale-Loomis Rd
Liberty, NY 12754
Phone 845-292-6180, ext. 114
Fax 845-292-4946
Web www.sullivancee.org

PRESS RELEASE

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Offered by: SueAnn Boyd
845-292-6180, ext. 117
Healthy Schools Coordinator
srb46@cornell.edu

Backpacks for Healthier Sullivan Schools & Communities

SULLIVAN COUNTY – Poverty is both a cause and consequence of poor health. With Sullivan County ranked as the second-sickest county in New York State, the county’s community-based organizations have a role to play in supporting children and families working their way out of the cycle of poverty and illness.

After hearing the story of a struggling Sullivan County parent, Sullivan Renaissance and Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County (CCESC)’s Healthy Schools Program staff were compelled to assist local families in preparing for the upcoming school year. Backpacks were filled with nutritious foods for over 60 students in Monticello, Liberty, and Fallsburg School Districts, and Sullivan BOCES at White Sulphur Springs.

The Community Day of Service was developed to provide a little relief for families living in some of Sullivan County’s most poverty-stricken areas. With financial support from Sullivan Renaissance, both organizations donated towards the cause and together, CCESC and Sullivan Renaissance staff loaded healthy, non-perishable items into 60 backpacks provided by Fidelis Care. Project assistants from the organizations’ staff and volunteers packed and delivered the backpacks full of nutritious foods.

The public can learn more about this and other Healthy Schools and Communities programs, projects, partnerships, and Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County by visiting www.sullivancee.org, emailing sullivan@cornell.edu, or calling 845-292-6180.

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