

# GLEANERS

## School-Based Pantry

Too many Indiana students drop out of high school before graduating. The reasons are numerous, but some of them leave school to help put food on the table at home. They get low-paying jobs to help make ends meet. Other students can't concentrate during the school day because they are chronically hungry.

Gleaners believes that eliminating barriers to accessing hunger relief will help students stay in school. Whether it's the student or their family that cannot get enough to eat, it's Gleaners' belief that getting food to those who need it most can make a dramatic difference for everyone.

High school students pressured into dropping out so they can contribute to the household budget can stay in school when they can get healthy food for their families. Each school pantry is stocked with all the essentials---from fresh produce to frozen meat to baby diapers to shampoo.

Schools report that because the pantry is open at regular times and can be opened in an emergency, parents' trust in the school grows, and their involvement in the student's life improves. They attend more school events and student conferences. Their children---the students---also have better attendance.

Keeping students in schools takes everyone working together. ***A School-Based Pantry helps students stay in school.***



50 schools have their very own pantries—at least one pantry in each of Gleaners' 21-county service area. The pantry is offered to families at NO cost to the students or the school.

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BUILDING *Hope*

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow