



Geauga County
Public Library

Press Release

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GCPL teams up with United Way to provide food with books

"Reading and Feeding" combines GCPL's Mobile Services and Women United to help children and families

Geauga County – June 22, 2018 – Children on the Free and Reduced Lunch Plan during the school year are often at risk of not having enough to eat during the summer. Recognizing this situation, United Way Services of Geauga County's Women United group and GCPL's Mobile Services have joined forces to address these needs.

Since Mobile Services routinely visits areas populated with people who qualify for this plan, it was a logical decision for United Way to collaborate with the library. "Keeping in mind that families on the Free and Reduced Lunch Plan struggle to keep their children fed during the summer months, Women United is pleased to join the Fun Bus Bookmobile at select sites to distribute snacks and bagged lunches along with free books," says Betsy Covington, Engagement Manager for United Way Services of Geauga County.

United Way and GCPL have been working on the details and logistics for several months, and the partnership has fostered the creation of a joint program called Reading and Feeding. "We've got the ability to get books to families across the county," says Nick Fagan, Mobile Services Manager. "Working with United Way, we're able to now deliver food to people who need it."

Reading and Feeding volunteers follow the Bookmobile in their cars on certain routes to deliver food to families in need, beginning in June and concluding in August. Locations include: Leaders trailer Park, Thompson Square, Mineral Lake, Scranton Woods, and select special events. Call Mobile Services (440-632-9496) for days and times.



About the Geauga County Public Library

The Geauga County Public Library includes four full-service branches in Bainbridge, Chardon, Chesterland (Geauga West) and Middlefield, two library stations housed in schools in Newbury and Thompson, and a Mobile Services fleet that serves rural areas and community centers. Its administrative center is located in Chardon, where technical services, computer services, facilities and administrative functions reside. GCPL houses more than 750,000 books and digital books. The collection also contains more than 100,000 audio / video items. About 400 research databases are available via its website. GCPL is a member of the Clevnet consortium, giving patrons access to more than 12 million items. Learn more about the Geauga County Public Library at the GCPL website, GeaugaLibrary.net.

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Caption: The GCPL Fun Bus Bookmobile is partnering with United Way Services of Geauga County's Women United group to bring "Reading and Feeding" to select locations. This service benefits children on the Free and Reduced Lunch Plan during the school year who are often at risk of not having enough to eat during the summer.