September XX, 2018  **Contact:**

 <INSERT NAME>

 <INSERT EMAIL>

 <INSERT PHONE #>

**MAYOR <INSERT NAME> TAKES PART IN “BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK DAY” – NATIONAL MOVEMENT TO ADDRESS CHILDHOOD HUNGER**

*More than <BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THIS NUMBER> mayors across the country are working with local volunteers to pack bags full of food for hungry students to take home for the weekend*

**WHAT**: Mayor <INSERT NAME> joins volunteers to stuff backpacks full of food for local schoolchildren as part of “Blessings in a Backpack Day.”

Blessings in a Backpack is a national 501(c)(3) organization that, through an all-volunteer network, mobilizes communities, individuals, and resources to provide food on the weekends for elementary school children across America who might otherwise go hungry. Volunteers across the country are responsible for the packing and delivery of food to students every weekend throughout the school year.

The result of a resolution passed at the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in June 2015, Blessings in a Backpack Day, now in its fifth year, will take place the on Thursday, September 27. Mayors nationwide, including <INSERT YOUR CITY>’s <INSERT MAYOR NAME>, will join local Blessings in a Backpack volunteers in an effort to combat childhood hunger in the U.S.

**WHO:** <INSERT MAYOR NAME>

<INSERT NAME(S)>, local Blessings in a Backpack program coordinator

 <INSERT SCHOOL NAME(S)>, school officials

Local volunteers

**WHEN**: Thursday, September 27, 2018

 <INSERT TIME>

**WHERE**: <INSERT LOCATION, WITH SPECIFIC ADDRESS>

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**About Blessings in a Backpack**: Hunger has both short- and long-term negative effects on children’s health and ability to succeed in school. Blessings in a Backpack mobilizes communities, individuals, and resources to provide food on the weekends for elementary school children across America who might otherwise go hungry. Blessings in a Backpack is providing 3.2 million hunger-free weekends for nearly 87,300 children in 45 states and the District of Columbia. For more information visit [www.blessingsinabackpack.org](http://www.blessingsinabackpack.org/).