

**HERO Pantry Partner Grocery List**

Thank you for being our HERO! Items in our pantry serve families in housing situations that often mean little-to-no kitchen access – **hotel living, doubled up with another family, or in a shelter where meals are scheduled** - so we’ve worked with parents and caregivers to build a list of items that would be most welcome and impactful. We have had recent requests for items that are more stove-friendly from our families who have recently secured housing (yay!), so the list has changed a bit in the last few months. *Note: The overlying theme of these items is “kid-friendly” and “one and done” - nothing much more than a microwave and water needed to make a quick meal or snack. (Current greatest needs and new additions have an \*)*

* **Mac and Cheese – single serve and boxed**
* **Pop-Top Chef Boyardee or other pasta meals**
* **Tuna or Chicken salad kits – in vacuum-sealed pouches with mix-ins and crackers**
* **Canned Chicken Breast \***
* **Hearty soups in individual microwavable bowls**
* **Shelf-stable microwavable meals (often found near Mac N Cheese. Brands - Hormel, Kraft, Velveeta)**
* **Microwavable cups of vegetables (Libby offers these)\***
* **Cans of vegetables**
* **Pre-Cooked pasta pouches (Barilla brand offers this)\***
* **Pasta sauce – tomato and alfredo\***
* **Fruit cups - Pears, Peaches, Mixed**
* **Oatmeal & cereal in single-use bowls**
* **Shelf-stable milk – in quarts or single-serve (Horizon/Parmalat)\***
* **Bottled water**
* **Drink mixes (lemonade or Gatorade powder, etc.)**
* **Rice & Mashed Potatoes in single-use bowls**
* **Dried beans to be cooked stovetop (black, pinto)**
* **Dried rice to be cooked stovetop (white rice)**
* **Kid-Friendly snacks – gummy fruit snacks, cheese crackers, granola bars, etc.**
* **Small (serving size) and larger (mixing, preparing) microwavable bowls – new or used!**

Thank you for helping us to serve families in a practical and respectful way – your donations are making days easier for them and the school-based staff who help to support them.

**Please contact Jami Oakley with any questions or to organize a collection, delivery or other partnership.** **Jami.oakley@mnps.org** **or 713.301.7815**