

## **Mobile Comunidad program providing free nutritious lunches to FDISD Elementary students**

FORT DAVIS - Seventy students in Fort Davis Elementary School received free lunches Monday, January 16, through the outreach program of Mobile Comunidad.

Mobile Comunidad recently purchased a lunch concession truck to feed the students at the school. Upon learning that there are no cafeterias in the FDISD schools, no school lunch programs, and that Jeff Davis County ranks #14 for child food insecurity out of 254 counties in Texas, the Still Water Foundation of Austin provided a grant to obtain the truck. The Permian Basin Area Foundation was instrumental in connecting the Still Water Foundation and Mobile Comunidad.

Working with the nutritionist at Labatt Food Service, Jackie Moses, Mobile Comunidad Food and Concession Manager, has planned a menu of nutritious, balanced, and fun meals for the students a month at a time. Monday's selection included a turkey ham and cheese sandwich, kiwi strawberry slush, cucumber slices, ranch dressing, and 100% fruit punch. Students with food allergies received safe alternative meals.

With the help of Stephen Chavez, Mobile Comunidad Transportation Manager, Moses assembles and packages the meals in the inspected formal commercial kitchen at Mountain Trails Lodge. They then deliver the individually bagged lunches, including utensils, to the school for the students to eat in the gym. Some future meals will include warm entrees. Food safety is a priority for Moses, who holds a Texas Certified Food Manager's License.

The next lunch delivery will be Monday, January 23. A regular schedule is being developed to bring free meals to the students more days per week. Mobile Comunidad already works with the Food Pantry of Jeff Davis County to provide nutritious afternoon snacks for the students, including carrots, celery sticks, fruit, and more.

Fort Davis Middle and High School students are provided free meals at the Jeff Davis County Library through the Kids' Pantry Program in conjunction with the West Texas Food Bank.

Mobile Comunidad is a collaborative outreach program developed under the umbrella of the Friends of the Jeff Davis County Library, with the support of the Food Pantry of Jeff Davis County. With a cargo van, Mobile Comunidad brings a variety of library, food, and social services to residents of Jeff Davis County, right where they live.

More information about Mobile Comunidad and a donation link to support the outreach services are available at [mobilecomunidad.org](http://mobilecomunidad.org).

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