



For information contact:  
[info@friendsofdonegal.com](mailto:info@friendsofdonegal.com)

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## Getting Ahead Program

- Classes will begin *Saturday, January 11, 2025* from 9:00AM-12:00PM
  - Transportation, childcare, and books/materials are provided for *FREE*
  - Attendees will receive a **\$25 gift card** for each class attended
- If you, or someone you know, would benefit from *investigating their life and identifying personal goals*, sign up now!
- For questions and sign ups, contact Andi at [andi@friendsofdonegal.org](mailto:andi@friendsofdonegal.org)

## Power Packs Program



- *71 families* are currently enrolled-306 individuals being served weekly
- We are preparing *75* packed bags weekly
- *9* families are utilizing the choice pantry weekly
- Distributing over *700lbs* of food per week
- New Freezer addition to be installed 11/18-11/19
- The Community Garden Harvest has been bountiful this year. Over 1,000lbs of vegetables donated to Power Packs, Senior Housing and the food bank
- **SAVE THE DATE** : Monday, November 25th from 2:30-5:00PM Power Pack families are welcome to pick up a gift card for Thanksgiving!

## Community Involvement

- Donegal School District Open Houses at the beginning of the school year
- Raise 28 Summer Backpack Giveaway
- 4th Fridays Downtown Mount Joy

4th Fridays Downtown Mount Joy  
SMALL TOWN - BIG CHARM  
DINING • SHOPPING • ENTERTAINMENT

## Upcoming Event:

Winterfest- Saturday  
December 7, 2024 from  
1:00-5:00PM





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## Special Thanks!

This month's spotlight is **Giant Food Stores** who donated \$3,000.00 in gift cards that will be used to bless families that attend the Getting Ahead Program, Thank you Giant, for your generosity!



Thank you to the **Donegal Baseball Team** for their help in cleaning up the Donegal Presbyterian Gardens on Saturday, October 26th!

Thank you to our first newsletter sponsor for November,  
**Milliron Goodman Firm!**

We are thankful to the many businesses that support the mission of Friends of Donegal.

## Volunteer Spotlight- Meet Cindy!



Friends of Donegal first met Cindy in May 2022. Cindy resides in Marietta with her son Jacob. Cindy attended 13 out of 14 classes and graduated from the 3rd Getting Ahead (GA) class in August 2022.

Prior to attending Getting Ahead, Cindy was not involved in volunteering or in the local community. Friends encouraged Cindy to get involved as an investigator in the GA classes.

Time is spent during the classes where participants investigate and complete both a personal and community assessment. As part of the community assessment an investigation was completed into ways to give back to and strengthen the local community. Cindy heard about

Donegal Power Packs and did a test drive in 2023 loving the experience. The mission of Donegal Power Packs is to empower families by providing food and nutritional education to children in the Donegal School District. This Friends of Donegal program is run solely by volunteers and supported by the local community.

In the past year Cindy has stepped up to take on more administrative responsibility for the overall program. Weekly she opens the church for volunteers to come in and pack the bags. She also receives deliveries and stocks shelves with the weekly food orders from Central PA Food Bank. Cindy gives out the weekly packs for all families coming to pick up their food. Cindy is the first face people see when they pull up. She warmly greets families quickly and efficiently gets their food, wishing them a good day. Cindy's smile is contagious and helps put others at ease.

Cindy states, "I enjoy helping people." Getting Ahead is a great program. It shares strategies on how to succeed in life according to your personal goals.