



TRUMBULL COUNTY

BOARD OF
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Their Journey, Their Needs, Our Support.



National Life Group Foundation's 2020-2021 LifeChanger of the Year

Lindsey Ison

CAFETERIA SUPERVISOR



When it comes to helping Fairhaven families in need, there's no greater example of the hard work and dedication that goes into changing lives as there is with Fairhaven Schools Cafeteria Supervisor, Lindsey Ison. While everyone within the Trumbull County Board of Developmental Disabilities goes above and beyond to provide for the individuals of our community, Lindsey has exemplified this commitment by creating programs that provide for families who are food insecure due to the recent global pandemic.

For her efforts, Ison is getting the recognition she deserves, thanks to her recent selection as a Grand Prize Finalist for the 2020-21 national Life Changer of the Year award. LifeChanger of the Year is an annual program sponsored by the National Life Group Foundation that recognizes and rewards outstanding K-12 educators and school district employees who have demonstrated a proven ability to make a beneficial difference in the lives of students.

"It has been an incredibly difficult challenge, but nothing has stopped Ms. Ison from meeting the students' needs," said Ison's nominator Fairhaven Principal, Sandra Kernen.

"Her presence in our program has been incredible, and she never toots her own horn. To be honest, many may not realize all that she does. She works to do what is needed and is often under the radar, which is what makes her a true heroine."

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ison took immediate action to ensure that students most vulnerable to food insecurity would not go hungry. She created a Backpack Program that provides nutritious home meals, dietary supplements and other essential items to at-risk students. Many Fairhaven students have complex medical issues, so Ison has had to work to send home meals that cater to each student's needs, such as only eating pureed or mechanical soft foods.

The Backpack Program also provides an opportunity for our C.I.T.E program students to gain essential job skills needed for future community employment such as inventory, stock and order processing. The program is fully funded by grants and donations and has delivered over 3050 meals to 150 families within the Fairhaven community.

For more information, please visit
fairhavenpgm.com