

## MOVE THAT BUS!



That's exactly what one of Operation Blessing's partners in Rogersville, TN is doing! "Of One Accord, Inc" (OOA) has created an innovative program to provide meals to children during the summer months. These children who receive free or reduced lunches during the school year are from families that cannot take on the financial burden of the additional food costs for the summer. Because Rogersville, TN is located in a rural area, the feasibility of trying to reach these children during the summer by transporting them from their homes to a specified location for lunch was not practical or cost effective. But OOA was determined to find a way!

Their perfect solution was to create "The Lunch Box" program, which utilizes a converted school bus to deliver meals to targeted locations around the county. The transformation of the bus occurred when the seats were turned to face each other and tables were placed in between them to create booths where the children sit together to enjoy their lunches. This "mobile cafeteria" travels five days a week throughout the summer months delivering free meals to the children. In its first year, the bus made approximately 10 stops and distributed an average of 100 meals a day. The program has been so successful that a second bus was added to increase the number of anticipated meals distributed in one summer to exceed 8,000.

OOA is making a difference in their community through this special "Lunch Box" program. Operation Blessing and its network of community partners continually depend on the generosity of our food donors to keep the hearts of struggling families filled with hope. Thank you for your continued support! You are a vital link in meeting the needs of these children and others like them across the country.

