



# **YMCA OF GREENSBORO**

## **BRIGHT BEGINNINGS**

**How are students chosen for the program?**

Invitations are extended first to local school guidance counselors and other community partner organizations to identify students in need. In general, students whose families qualify for the free and reduced lunch at their schools would also qualify for YMCA Bright Beginnings.

**Where can I sign my child up?**

Unfortunately, the Y does not accept applications from the general public. There are more than 42,500 children in Guilford County that would qualify for the program based on financial need. Please speak to your school's guidance counselor to see if your child's school is currently working with the Y for YMCA Bright Beginnings to be considered for 2017.

**I am a parent whose child was invited to participate, but I have some questions. Who do I contact?**

Contact Elizabeth Minehart at [Elizabeth.Minehart@ymcagreensboro.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Minehart@ymcagreensboro.org) or 336.854.8410.

**How old are the students who participate?**

Students will be entering 1st through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**How old do you have to be to volunteer?**

Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to shop with a child.

**As a volunteer, may I bring my children with me?**

No. While the Y believes that families are important in building strong communities, a big part of the YMCA Bright Beginnings experience is the opportunity for a child to have one-on-one time with a caring volunteer.

**What do the children shop for?**

Our students will shop for \$125 worth of school clothes including shoes, socks, underwear, fall outfits and a sweater or jacket.

**Who pays for the clothes?**

Our many donations from individuals, businesses and civic organizations pays for the program.

**If my shopping buddy goes over the limit, may I pay the extra amount so they don't have to put anything back?**

You may choose to pay for other items yourself in a separate check out line, but it is not required and no volunteer should feel that they need to do this.

**What about school supplies?**

Each student will receive a backpack filled with grade-appropriate school supplies before the trip.

**What are other ways for me/my company to help?**

The program serves as many children as funding allows. Monetary and backpack donations make a big difference. Fundraising and backpack drives make great team projects! Please contact Elizabeth Minehart at [Elizabeth.Minehart@ymcagreensboro.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Minehart@ymcagreensboro.org) or 336.854.8410 to help.