

***By Russ Pankonin
The Imperial Republican***

People making donations to the Feed My Starving Children packing event in Imperial can get their donations matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$30,000.

Dick Banks of Imperial, committee chair, said an anonymous donor offered a \$30,000 challenge grant to aid the fundraising for the third annual event. It will be held July 23-27 at Crossroads Wesleyan Church in Imperial.

The event is organized by the Southwest Nebraska Meals for God's Children (SNMFGC) committee.

The overall fundraising goal for this year's event has been set at \$110,000. This will provide for 500,000 meals to be packaged during the event.

Banks said people can stretch their donation by taking advantage of the matching challenge.

The matching grant will only be available on donations made no later than July 28.

People wanting to make donations to the Imperial event can send them to FMSC, PO Box 91, Imperial, NE 69033. Checks should be made out to FMSC and should include the event No. 1307-39 on the check.

People can also go the MobilePack tab on the FMSC website at www.fmsc.org for more information or to make donations. If donations are made on the web site, donors should note event No. 1307-39 to ensure donations go to the Imperial event.

During the 2012 event, volunteers packaged a total of 520,992 meals. That equates to providing 1,427 children one meal a day for a year. The cost for each meal is 22 cents.

For more information, to volunteer or to inquire about donations, people can contact Banks at 308-883-0397 or any of the other committee members.

They include James Marlatt at 308-882-6386, Paul Hickman at 308-414-1407 or Rhonda Hickman at 308-414-1406.