



Food & Fund Drive

Ideas to help you get started



A FRESH APPROACH
TO ENDING LOCAL HUNGER

Organize a committee of volunteers and set a goal.

Be creative in naming your event (idea generating themes are listed on back). Are you looking to do a one-day event or a month long event? Do you want to do a food drive, fund drive, or both? Include this in your messaging.

Decide on a theme and time frame.

Get several members of your organization, business, community, or school to help with the collection and in spreading the word about your food drive. Set a goal for the food drive and let everyone know about it.

Establish incentives to give!

- secure company matching funds to quickly double your efforts
- award prizes, tickets or gift cards for most pounds raised
- give special perks such as a free parking space or front row parking in winter

Register your food and fund drive and schedule your drop off.

Registering your food and fund drive allows us to make sure we have staff and volunteers ready to assist you. Go to www.theopendoorpantry.org and click on *How To Give / Food & Fund Drives*

Make helping easy: Narrow your focus

Choose 1-5 items to collect. A theme (cereal drive) or a few of our "TOP 5" needed items is easy to remember when grocery shopping. Download our "Suggested Food Items" list which includes the TOP 5, perishable & non-perishable items, personal hygiene and household products list.

Add a crowdfunding page to your drive

Broaden your reach and host an online fund drive. We'll customize an online page for you to track the progress towards your specific goal and engage socially.

Create containers for collecting food donation.

Clearly mark and label with signage (download donation box sign from our website) and place containers in high traffic areas to get noticed.

Spread the word.

Ideas for promoting your food drive: post on websites and social media; send e-mails, post flyers or in company newsletters, banners, or breakroom.

Tip: Large containers look great but many times are too heavy to move and have to be emptied and repacked for delivery. Make containers easy to carry, such as boxes or bags for delivering to The Open Door.

Celebrate your success!

Reward staff and donors. Show your appreciation by:

- Serving a light meal and refreshments
- Decorating a bulletin board in an employee common area with photos of volunteers and from the event.
- We are proud of our community and how you support those in need. Take photos of your event in progress, write a brief summary of your efforts and share or tag The Open Door on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, or X.



Questions? Contact Lisa Wendt at 651-302-9528 or lisa.wendt@theopendoorpantry.org



CAMPAIGN IDEAS

Add creativity to ensure the success of your food and fund drive!



Team Challenges

Organize contest between departments with different categories such as:

- largest individual donation
- most pounds raised per team
- most unique food display

"Items" of the Day

Assign one item for each day of the week (or each week of the month) from our Top 5 most needed items list to motivate your teams to contribute to our pantry's essential supplies.

Work Meeting or Event Add-on

If you are already having a company event, simply ask each participant to bring in canned goods to that event. Request donations when someone is late to a meeting, a cell phone rings during a meeting, etc.

Culturally Specific

Our client families come from diverse backgrounds. Please select the culturally specific requested items highlighted on our "Suggested Donations" flyer.

Fill it Up!

Fill a designated area, such as the office, a truck, a breakroom, or another specified location, with food.

Diaper or TP Tower

Diapers and toilet paper are a necessity and they fly off our shelves. Get teams together to see who can stack the biggest tower of TP or diapers.



Skip Take-Out or Coffee

Encourage your colleagues to forgo one take-out meal or a cup of coffee and instead donate the money saved to The Open Door.

Peanut Butter Posse

Select one or two of our most need food items, employ a catchy title for your group, and see which group/department can collect the most food.

Allergen Friendly

The top allergens are wheat, milk, soy, peanuts, and eggs. Consider stocking up on alternatives such as shelf-stable almond, oat, or coconut milk, gluten-free pasta or cereal, and nut butters like almond or cashew.

Super Snacks

Granola bars, fruit cups, protein bars, low-sugar fruit roll-ups, or trail mix can provide a boost for both kids and adults during the mid-afternoon slump.

Ice Cream Social

Buy a gallon of ice cream, whipping cream and sprinkles. Make ice cream sundaes and ask for a free will donation. All proceeds benefit The Open Door.

More campaign ideas:

- Carb Loader: pasta, rice, lentils, beans, barley, quinoa
- Soups-On: hearty canned soups, dried mixes, or broth
- Condiment Crazy: salsa, mayo, mustard, soy sauce...
- Bake Off: flour, sugar, cooking oil, spices, baking soda



Scan here for more details or visit our website at theopendoorpantry.org