



FOOD DRIVE

Thank you for volunteering to conduct a food drive on behalf of the Interfaith Food Pantry Network. In 2023, we distributed more than 2.1 million pounds of food. We would not be able to continue to meet this need without the help of volunteers like you.

Getting started is as easy
as 1, 2, 3!

PLAN

Select the dates and location. We recommend that you run a drive for a least 2 weeks.

PREPARE

Get your collection bin(s) ready and make posters and fliers to get the word out.

COLLECT

Time to start collecting and put your plan into action.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Make sure you are sharing IFPN's most needed items when you publicize your drive. <http://mcifp.org/donate/donate-food>
Note: IFPN cannot accept unlabeled or dented cans, open packaging, homemade foods or expired products.
2. Contact IFPN to set up a specific day and time when you will drop off the food and any monetary donations you received. Be prepared to provide a rough estimate of the amount of food that will be delivered.
Call Kiley at 973-538-8049 x236 to schedule.
3. Remember cash donors can text 'Hunger' to 26-989. Ask them to add a note mentioning your food drive when they make their donation.

FOOD DRIVE THEMES

Be Creative!

Organize a pledge drive. Ask your family and friends to pledge money to help feed a family.

"Join our 'Give up to Give Back' initiative – transform your sacrifices into support for those in need. Spread the word, share our link, and make a difference today! <https://mcifp.harnessgiving.org/giveup-giveback>

Collect food donations for a specific meal (i.e. chili day, "Soup-er" bowl).

Hold a pizza party where admission is a donation of food or funds.

Hold a potluck and ask guests to bring food donations.

Invite family and friends to donate a non-perishable item to IFPN as a birthday, anniversary, or holiday gift.

Ask participants to purchase a reusable shopping bag and fill it with non-perishable items.

Place donation jars and food bins near break rooms, copiers, or any other place people gather.

Sponsor a brown bag or skip-a-meal lunch.

Host a Food Drive themed day, like Thirsty Thursday (100% fruit juice), or Warm Up Wednesday (canned soup).

Collect food and funds at community events, like sporting events, mini-marathons, farmers market, etc.

Run a "Hunger Doesn't Take A Summer Vacation" drive to collect breakfast and lunch items for children who normally receive these meals through a school program.

EVERYDAY PANTRY NEEDS

IFPN cannot accept unlabeled or dented cans, open packaging, homemade foods or expired products.

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Fruit canned in its own juice or with "no sugar added" or vegetables with low sodium or "no salt added".

Canned Fruit
100% Juice 32 oz.
Canned Vegetables
Spaghetti / Tomato Sauce,
Tomato Products (crushed, whole, diced, paste, puree)
Fresh Produce from your garden (uncooked)

DAIRY

Donate shelf-stable low-fat (1%) or non-fat dairy products

Parmalat (shelf stable 32 oz. size)
Dry Milk (1-qt. package)
Evaporated Milk
Calcium-fortified Milk alternatives such as soy, rice or almond milks

PROTEIN

Look for "no salt added", "low-sodium" and "canned in water"

Canned Beans (Pork and Beans, Pinto, Red, White, not green beans)
Dried Beans
Tuna Fish, Salmon and other canned fish
Peanut Butter, 18 oz.
Canned Meats and Meals (ravioli, spaghetti & meatballs, hash, stew canned chicken)

GRAINS

Cereal – low sugar, high fiber
Oatmeal
Pasta/ Whole wheat Pasta
Rice /Brown Rice – 1 or 2 lb. sizes

Donate whole grains as often as you can

SIDE DISHES

Mac 'n Cheese
Instant Potatoes
Stuffing
Rice-A-Roni
Hamburger Helper

SOUPS

Hearty, Low-Sodium, Regular

BABY ITEMS

Enfamil Infant Formula (NOT Newborn)
Baby Food – Stage 1 Fruits and Stage 3 Vegetables & Meats
Diapers 5 & 6
Pull Ups 4T & 5T
Baby Wipes

SPECIALTY ITEMS

Gluten Free Products
Boost or Ensure, regular
Boost Glucose Control or Glucerna
Adult Depends (no tabs)
Tea (100 count boxes)
Resealable sandwich bags and quart sized Plastic Bags