

how to run a

food



drive

Running a food drive is one of the most valuable activities you can provide for the food bank. Here is a how-to list on providing this most valuable of services.

A food drive is a coordinated effort by an individual, company or civic organization to collect non-perishable food and non-food items. Food may be delivered directly to the Food Bank or it can be collected at your place of business, organization or congregation.

Food Drives are important to the Food Bank and those we serve. They help fill the gaps of foods that are not typically or frequently donated. In spite of the generosity of the food industry, certain important foods are often in short supply. You can make a difference. Your efforts to organize and conduct a food drive will provide nutritious, high quality food for your neighbors in need.

Hunger doesn't take a holiday. While the holidays are typically the time when most lend a helping hand, hunger is a year-round problem. Now is the perfect time for your food drive.

The food that you collect goes to over 222 Food Bank member agencies such as soup kitchens, shelters, emergency pantries, day care centers, rehabilitation houses, and churches. These 501(c)(3) organizations care for the needy in your neighborhood.

When planning a food drive, use the following checklist:

1. What is your target area? Who will be involved?
2. Select the types of food you wish to collect. See the opposite page for a list of our most needed items.
3. Make arrangements for volunteers and transportation.
4. Decide on the length of the food drive.
5. Get the word out! Advertise your food drive.
6. Don't forget to contact the Food Bank of South Jersey. We will guide you every step of the way – from supplying food canisters to flyer ideas to arranging for your food pick up.

Most Needed Food Items

Meat & High Protein Items
 canned meat • ham • spreads
 stews • chicken • canned tuna
 salmon • sardines • other fish
 canned nuts and seeds • Peanut
 Butter • Macaroni & Cheese

Fruits and Vegetables
 Dried Fruits • Canned Fruits
 Canned Juices • Canned
 Vegetables • Canned Soup Salads
 • Sauces • Condiments • Salad
 Dressings • Beans • Applesauce

Household Goods
 Cleaning Supplies • Paper
 Products • Diapers • Detergent

Holiday Items
 Stuffing • Cranberry Sauce
 Gravies • Pickles and Olives
 Pie Crust • Pie Fillings

Dairy
 Evaporated Milk • Cheese Foods
 Powdered Milk
 Puddings and Custards
 Infant Formula

Breads and Cereals
 Cake Mix • Baking, muffin
 and Roll mixes • Dry and
 Breakfast Cereals • Oatmeal
 Rice and Rice Cakes • Pasta

