



## How to Run a Food Drive

### **Basic Steps:**

1. **Decide** on the dates and number of food collection barrels needed for your food drive.
2. **Sign up** with Grandmas House of Hope for barrel delivery and pick up by filling out an Participant Form.
3. **Elect** a food drive coordinator to be responsible for the communication between Grandma's House of Hope and your organization. The food drive coordinator can also organize and promote the food drive.
4. **Choose** high-traffic areas for barrel placement.
5. **Select a theme** for your food drive. Decide whether you would like to decorate the food drive barrels or if you want to use the barrels that are already wrapped by GHH.
6. **Inform** participants about the food drive through letters, announcements, flyers, memos and newsletters.

### **Make a Goal**

**Set a goal for the amount of food collected:** Reward yourselves if that goal is met; this will create an incentive for donators.

1. A Pizza Party
2. Pajama Day
3. Ice Cream Stand
4. Raffle
5. Movie Night

## Make the Food Drive Fun with Themes

**Single Item:** Stick to single item donations. Canned meals: Mac n Cheese, Ravioli, Spaghetti O's.

**Kids' Favorite Snacks:** Juices, Peanut Butter, Dried Fruit, Granola Bars.

**Breakfast Items:** Healthy Cereal, Oatmeal, Instant Breakfast, Cereal Bars, Canned Fruit, Powdered Milk.

**Dinner's Ready:** Canned Soup, Canned Vegetables, Cooked Rice, Salsa, Pasta, Canned Chili, Spaghetti Sauce



**Inform** participants on the location and date of the Food Drive by using promotional tools listed below. Incorporate flashy titles/themes, bright colors, fun fonts, and specify incentives and rewards to get people's attention.

- Make a Poster
- Announcements
- Newsletters
- T-Shirts
- Flyers
- Spread the Word



Non-perishable Canned Food or Dry Food (No Glass Containers):

- Canned Meats
- Canned Soup and Chili
- Canned Fruit (No fresh fruit)
- Canned Vegetables
- Meal in a Can/Bowl: Mac n Cheese, Cup of Noodle
- Canned Beans
- Peanut Butter
- Cereal
- Fruit Juice (Canned, Plastic, or Boxed)
- Cooked Pasta and Rice

**\*\*Note:** Food items that are not permitted include: rusty or unlabeled cans, food in glass containers, perishable items, homemade items, noncommercial canned or packaged items, alcoholic beverages, mixes or soda, open or used items.

### **Some Ideas to Make Your Food Drive Fun**

- Movie night; charge in cans of food for entrance and popcorn
- Host a game night with bunko, poker...charge an entrance fee of a can of food
- A raffle ticket for each item donated and hold a raffle
- A car wash; charge \_\_\_ number of items to get car washed
- “Bingo Night” food drive: play bingo using food groups in place of numbers
- Week drive with daily themes, i.e., Macaroni Monday, Tuna Tuesday, etc.

### **A Little Competition is Always Fun**

- Build competitive peanut butter castles in your youth or a child’s group
- See who can build the largest pyramid with donated cans of food
- See who can build the longest train with boxes of food
- Have a neighborhood food drive. Set goal and time (example: 4 hours) and see who can collect the most donated food
- “Knock Down Hunger;” Build a chain of dominos with donated boxes of food and knock them down

### **Who Can Hold a Food Drive**

- Churches
- PTA’s
- Companies
- Youth groups
- A group of friends
- Community Action Groups
- Sports teams
- Schools
- Neighborhood Associations

**Sample flyers are available for your resources as well with all necessary information already included!**