

A GUIDE TO HOSTING THE PERFECT FOOD DRIVE



1. Plan



2. Promote



3. Collect



4. Success!



1. PLAN

Choose a date and length for your food drive.

Food Drives generally last from 1 day to a month. It all depends on what type of event that works best for your group. If you're hosting one in your neighborhood, then a 1 day blitz of picking up food might make sense. If you're hosting this at a location where people can casually drop off food over a period of time then 2-4 weeks is usually best.

Find a location to host your food drive.

Don't hold a food drive in the middle of nowhere; go where the people are! Offices, schools, grocery stores, central gathering spots in town, and sporting events are all great locations!

Again, consider if you're hosting your food drive over a period of time or just 1 day.

Find a location where you can store the food safely over the course of your food drive. If you're hosting it in 1 day, then consider a drive-thru/dropoff location option as well.

If you are hosting your food drive outdoors, don't forget to make a rain plan.

Still need a few ideas? [Here are 50 locations you can host a food drive.](#)

Create fun competitions or incentives to encourage participation.

Offering an incentive or a prize to donors can help create energy and excitement about your food drive.

Holding a food drive at a school? Reward the class who collects the most with a pizza party. Holding a food drive at work? Set a goal and promise the staff a free bagel breakfast if they reach it. Discount coupons, entries to a raffle, and admission to an event are other ways to persuade potential donors.

[Here's a list of ways to incentive people to donating food.](#)

Choose a benefitting food bank or pantry.

You can bring your food donations to any food bank or pantry. Not sure where the closest food bank is? Try searching on [Feeding America](#) or [FoodPantries.org](#). Still not sure where to bring your food? [Email Events@moveforhunger.org](#) and we can recommend a local food pantry.



The food bank will provide you with a weight receipt, which you should send back with our [Food Drive Donation Weight Receipt Form](#). Send us your weight receipt and pictures of your food drive, and you'll receive a free Move For Hunger T-Shirt!

Start a fundraiser to coincide with your food drive.

Not everyone can (or will remember) to bring food to donate. Therefore, it's always a great idea to set up a fundraiser to go along with your food drive. It's really easy to add, simply [reach out to our team, and we'll get you set up for you](#).

Every \$10 you collect helps provide over 25 meals to communities in need.

Begin gathering boxes for collecting food

In an effort to be more sustainable, Move For Hunger does not provide boxes. That said, here are some tips to collect some in your area:

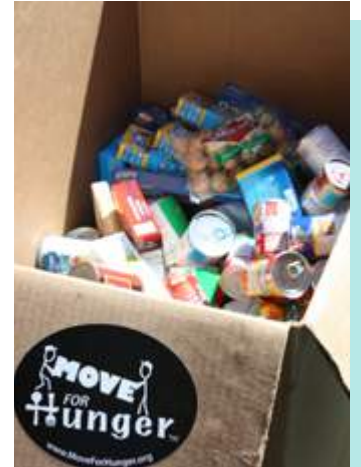
- Reuse any boxes they might have lying around.
- Ask your coworkers, volunteers, or other people helping out to keep their boxes leading up to the event.
- You can also ask for free boxes at your local grocery store.
- Call up local restaurants and hardware stores, as they might have some too.

Feel free to decorate them to your heart's content. Seriously, go bananas and send photos.

Don't do it alone

Let's face it: everything is easier with a little help.

Ask family members, friends, colleagues, and classmates to help spread the word and lend a hand on the day of the event. [Here's a short guide of how they can help out](#).



Tell your friends, family, and community

There are plenty of ways to promote your food drive! (PS. click the links at the bottom of this section for customizable graphics)

- Post flyers in high-traffic areas, local businesses, or around the office.
- Put yard signs around your community
- Share the news in your company or community newsletter
- Post in your community Facebook group, Next Door app, or Patch app.
- Share the news on social media with our customized templates
- Start a Facebook Event

Generate excitement with reminders and updates about your drive

People get busy, so it's important to remind them as the food drive gets closer. Is your food drive longer than one day? Then send reminders throughout with updates on how much you've collected.

Order Move For Hunger T-Shirts and other merch to help promote your food drive

[Visit our online store](#) to purchase your own. All purchases fund our hunger relief and food recovery programs to help provide meals to communities in need.

Download your food drive asset kit to boost awareness

You can change your food drive theme by using our "Theme Selector" on the right.

If you don't see files to download, then they are coming soon!



Put up your collection signs

Make sure people need to know where to drop off their food. You can create your own sign or download this sample one [here](#).

Carefully pack the bags or boxes to avoid breaking them

As you pack all of this donated food, it's important to pack the bags or boxes correctly.

- Try to separate types of food like cereal in one box and cans of vegetables in another. This will help the food bank with sorting once the food is delivered.
- Cans of food can be heavy, especially when you start filling up a box. Don't fill up boxes with cans more than halfway to avoid breaking the box (or your back)

Collect most commonly need items

Here are some of the most requested items from food banks. [You can download this list to print out here.](#)

Peanut or other nut butters

Chicken broth

Canned tuna and chicken

Canned fruit in light syrup

Canned veggies

Canned soups, stews, and chili

Beans, canned or dried

Boxed mac & cheese

Pasta, rice, and quinoa

Pasta sauce

Baby food and formula

Shelf-stable milk (rice, almond, soy)

Cereal, oatmeal, and granola

Spices (including basic seasonings like Salt & Pepper)

Take plenty of photos and video! (Use our guide below)

Wondering how you could take awesome pictures you can share with Move For Hunger?

Whether you are a mover, volunteer, or Move For Hunger partner, we'd love to share the pictures you take the next time you host a food drive, fundraiser, or help move food during a transport!

[Here are our top 7 tips for taking high-quality pictures](#) and [click here to send us your photos and video](#).

Collect more than 25 boxes/bins of food? Request a food pickup!

[Fill out this form to get your food picked up](#). Please keep in mind that our partners are volunteers who assist with these pickups around their regularly scheduled jobs, so we try to give them a 30-day window to pick up food donations.

If you would rather bring the donations to the food bank yourself, please let us know and we can suggest one in your area. The food bank will provide you with a weight receipt, which you should send back with our [Food Drive Donation Weight Receipt Form](#).



**Please note: While we are in most locations, we aren't everywhere (yet). But we'll do our best to help you out!*

Collect less than 25 boxes/bins of food?

You're still awesome in our book!

You can bring your food donations to any food bank or pantry. Not sure where the closest food bank is? Try searching on [Feeding America](#) or [FoodPantries.org](#). Still not sure where to bring your food? [Email Events@moveforhunger.org](mailto:Events@moveforhunger.org) and we can recommend a local food pantry.

The food bank will provide you with a weight receipt, which you should send back with our [Food Drive Donation Weight Receipt Form](#). Send us your weight receipt and pictures of your food drive, and you'll receive a free Move For Hunger T-Shirt!



Share your photos and stories with us

We would sure like to brag about your awesome food drive and share your amazing impact! [Upload your photos and videos here](#), and we'll share them out on our social media (@moveforhunger)

Submit your weight receipt

The food bank will provide you with a weight receipt, which you should send back with our [Food Drive Donation Weight Receipt Form](#). **Send us your weight receipt to receipt@moveforhunger.org and pictures of your food drive, and you'll receive a free Move For Hunger T-Shirt!**

Post and celebrate how much you've helped your community

Celebrate your impact by posting on social media. Click the links in the "Promote" section to get customizable social media graphics to help you share your un-beet-lievable feat!

Say Thank You!

Officially end the food drive by thanking everyone who donated and sharing the results. Photos are a great way to show everyone how much food you collected, so make sure you take a picture with all of your donations! Post the photo on social media, or attach it to an email to thank everyone for their help.

After we receive the Food Drive Donation Form from you, we will be able to send you a certificate to officially recognize your contribution to our fight to end hunger.

FOOD DRIVE QUICK LINKS



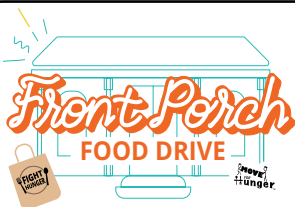
GENERAL FOOD DRIVE

Flyer

<https://linke.to/GeneralFoodDriveFlyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/GeneralFoodDriveSocial>



FRONT PORCH FOOD DRIVE

Flyer

<https://linke.to/FrontPorchFoodDriveFlyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/FrontPorchFoodDriveSocial>



CAN THE CEO

Flyer

<https://linke.to/CanTheCeoFlyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/CanTheCEOSocial>



1,000 CAN FOOD DRIVE

Flyer

<https://linke.to/1000CanChallengeFlyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/1000CanChallengeSocial>



FILL-A-TRUCK

Flyer

<https://linke.to/FillATruckFlyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/FillATruckSocial>



RESOLVE TO FIGHT HUNGER

Flyer

<https://linke.to/ResolveToFightHungerFlyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/ResolveToFightHungerSocial>



SPREAD THE LOVE

Flyer

<https://linke.to/SpreadTheLoveFlyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/SpreadTheLoveSocial>



SPRING INTO ACTION

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Social Media

<https://linke.to/SpringIntoActionSocial>



EARTH DAY

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Social Media

<https://linke.to/EarthDaySocial>



SOUPER HERO

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Social Media

<https://linke.to/SouperHeroSocial>



PRIDE DRIVE

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Social Media

<https://linke.to/PrideDriveSocial>



SHARK WEEK

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Social Media

<https://linke.to/SharkWeekSocial>



BACK TO SCHOOL

Flyer

<https://linke.to/BackToSchoolFlyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/BackToSchoolSocial>



HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Flyer

<https://linke.to/HungerActionMonthflyer>

Social Media

<https://linke.to/HungerActionMonth>



TRICK OR CAN

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Social Media

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FALL HARVEST

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Social Media

<https://linke.to/FallHarvest>



THANKSGIVING

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Social Media

<https://linke.to/ThanksgivingSocial>



SEASON OF GIVING

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Social Media

<https://linke.to/SeasonOfGivingSocial>