Food Drive Kit

Within this kit you will find:

▶ Steps on how to hold a food drive.
▶ A flyer to advertise your food drive.
▶ An info sheet about the Worthington Resource Pantry.
▶ Guidelines for what is most needed and how to make the biggest impact with your drive.
▶ Contact information for any questions or concerns you may have.
What to ask people for:

- Generally, people ask us what kind of food drive to have, our most needed items are:
  - Canned Fruit- any kind!
  - Canned, diced tomatoes
  - Personal hygiene items such as deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste etc.
  - Baked beans
  - Ready to eat soups

Support a Specific Need.
Your group or organization can hold a targeted drive for a specific item. For instance, you can collect just peanut butter or be our toilet paper champion. This makes it easy to keep our shelves adequately supplied with items to meet basic needs. We provide a “real life” shopping experience in our choice pantry.
Creative Food and/or Personal Item Drive Ideas!

For Schools

- Create a competition between grade levels or classes – the grade or class that brings in the most number of cans (or weight) wins an incentive like a pizza party or simply a banner to show off their school pride!
  - As a twist, each grade could be in charge of a different type of canned good (veggies, soups, fruit, meat, etc) – also helps you keep track of what’s what!
- Create a theme to go with each day of your “Spirit Week” – for example, on “Crazy Hair Day” students would bring in personal hygiene products like shampoo and conditioner to donate!
- Have kids “vote” for their favorite teacher with canned goods!
- Hold a “Souper Bowl” – the week of the Super Bowl, kids could vote for which team they thought would win by placing items in one of two bins. Each day cans would be counted and the “score” announced.
- Have a “Fill the Bus” challenge between schools to see who can fill a bus more! (plus you’re ready to transport!)
- Have classes hold a “canned sculpture art” competition – not only will they be bringing in cans, they will also be building their engineering, architecture, and problem solving skill set!
- Have a lottery/raffle – kids trade in cans to get raffle tickets for a larger prize
- Hold a “Pajama Day” – kids can “buy” the right to wear pajamas to school if they bring in canned goods!
● For an athletic event, instead of charging admission, charge by cans of food!
● Valentine’s Day – donate in honor of your valentine – for each can donated, participants can write the name of their valentine on a heart that can be posted visibly in an area. Great idea for high schools!

For Organizations or Clubs
● Have a walk-a-thon in which participants would get sponsors to donate one can per mile!
● “Spring Cleaning” - Ask a grocery store to donate paper bags. Then you can decorate the bags with the list of items needed (or staple a list to the front). Distribute the bags to the neighborhood – make sure you plan for and give a date for pick-up! (Think about doing thank you cards too!)
● As your local grocery store if you can do a food drive at the store – as people go into the store, hand them a bag with the list stapled to the front and ask them to contribute what they can!
● Consider involving people in building a certain item – like green bean casseroles
● Hold a Pancake Breakfast and have people bring in nonperishable goods that go with breakfast – pancake mix, flour, cereal, instant oatmeal, fruit juice, etc.
● Host a “Chili Cookoff” – some people make the chili, and everyone else brings in cans of chili items!
● Hold a $5 Party in which each person is responsible for buying as many food items as possible with just $5 (also a great lesson on budgeting!!). The person who buys the most items for $5 wins!
For Individuals

- Go trick or treating – for canned goods!
- Turn your next party into a cause – every person who comes should bring a canned good with them!
- Consider a reverse food drive – donate a service to someone else (like leaf raking, snow shoveling, car washing, etc) and have them pay you in cans!
- Plant an extra row in your garden and donate the produce to the Pantry!

Also consider doing a penny drive or fundraising drive! And did you know that we also need plastic bags? Time to recycle!

Credit for ideas goes to:
How to ask for it:

▶ The next two slides are tools you can use to advertise your food drive.
  ▶ The first is guidelines of how to create a food drive flyer, followed by an example.
  ▶ The second is an info sheet to post so that people know what they are collecting food for, and a little more about our overall mission.
▶ We recommend posting it in highly populated areas such as community bulletin boards.
Creating a food pantry flyer: some guidelines

▶ Be sure to include both your logo and Worthington Resource Pantry’s on the flyer. It is recommended that you put them at opposite corners on your flyer (see example below).

▶ Include an unknown fact about hunger that pertains to your community. Try to capture their attention as to why a food drive is necessary.

▶ Make a call to action. Explain how people taking this one step can help a big problem.

▶ Be sure to list times, locations or other things specific to your food drive.

▶ Try to list the most needed items on the flyer- this will prepare people for what to bring in advance.

▶ See the example flyer below.
Did you know that 1 in every 4 children in America go to bed hungry?

Help us alleviate this need within our own community!

Most Needed Items:
- Canned Fruit
- Baked Beans
- Canned chicken and tuna
- Boxed pasta
- Canned vegetables
- Toilet paper
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Diapers

We will be hosting a food drive at Hannah’s Java Hut to benefit the Worthington Resource Pantry! Help our neighbors in need by donating canned goods, personal items or monetary funds! We will be collecting food at the following times and locations:
Location: 5555 Java Hut avenue Columbus, Ohio
Times: 4pm-6pm every Friday

For Example Only
**Worthington Resource Pantry**

**Who are we?**

We are a volunteer community-based organization created to provide emergency assistance to Worthington neighbors in need. The Pantry is supported by the community through monetary donations as well as in-kind donations of food and essential personal care items.

In addition to providing food through our “choice” food pantry, we provide information and referrals through our Resource Center. Our educational arm provides health programs in the community on topics such as financial management and healthy food preparation.

**Why are we needed?**

We have seen an increase of 20% in the number of neighbors utilizing our services in the past twelve months. Many people are surprised to hear that Worthington needs a food pantry and resource center. However, suburban poverty has increased 64% over the past decade nationally, and Worthington is part of this growing phenomenon. Within the Worthington School District, 30% of students are eligible for free or reduced lunch. Since it is difficult to ask for help sometimes, we are committed to providing a place where individuals and families are welcomed and treated with dignity and respect.

**How Can You Help?**

- Donate money to buy food.
- A $50 donation can provide 280 meals to a hungry family.
- Donate food, host a food drive.
- Volunteer: Share your time and talents.
- Share our story.

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“What our neighbors have to say about us:

"Our LARGE family experienced 3 job losses in 13 months!! We are educated and responsible, but we needed temporary help. We were treated with RESPECT and got GREAT FOOD!!"

“This pantry helped my family in a time of need. It was good to know my kids could still eat nutritious food even when we were having tough times.”

“For senior citizens like myself, sometimes social security isn’t enough. It’s nice to come here and supplement with fresh produce.”

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6700 Huntley Road, Columbus, OH 43229   Mailing Address: P.O. Box 27, Worthington, OH 43085

[www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org](http://www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org)   614-985-1766
How to make an even bigger impact:

Food Drive Guidelines
By following these guidelines, our volunteers at the pantry can distribute the food you are donating more easily to those in need. Getting your food on the shelves, faster.

1. **Collection Dates** – please let us know in advance when you are planning a food drive so that we do not have too much food all arriving at once. Many drives are held in the fall, for which we are grateful, but we have food needs year round. We can also let you know specific items needed at the Pantry. To schedule a drive please call the Pantry at (614) 985-1766 or email food.drives@worthingtonresourcepantry.org

2. **Delivery Schedule** – for large food drives, please let us know your delivery date and time in advance. This allows us to schedule volunteers to help unload, weigh, sort and store your donations. For smaller drives, donations may be dropped off during Pantry donation hours:
   - Monday- 9:00am – 4:00pm

6700 Huntley Road, Columbus, OH 43229   Mailing Address: P.O. Box 27, Worthington, OH 43085  
www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org  614-985-1766
● Tuesday- 9:00am – 4:00pm
● Wednesday- 9:00am – 7:30pm
● Thursday- 9:00am – 12:00pm
● Friday- Closed
● 3rd & 4th Saturday- 9:00am – 12:00pm
● Sunday- Closed

TIP: Since we are a small staff and may be away at meetings, you should still call ahead before you come if you want to make sure someone is here!

3. Packaging – please package donated items into small, sturdy boxes so the box weight does not exceed 30 pounds. This prevents damage to the items, and makes it easier for our volunteers to lift and stack the boxes. If you need boxes, we have some available for pickup at the pantry.

4. Sort Items – if possible, please sort the donations by the following main groups (and further into sub-groups if so desired), and label the boxes. This helps us quickly find needed items for our shelves.
   ▶ Fruits – peaches, pears, mixed, pineapple, oranges, applesauce, etc.
   ▶ Vegetables – green beans, corn, peas, mixed, carrots, beets, spinach, greens, tomato products, spaghetti sauce, etc.
   ▶ Grains – cereal, oatmeal, rice, spaghetti noodles, egg noodles, pastas, flour, crackers, etc.
Combinations – chili, stew, canned pasta, condensed & ready-to-eat soups, macaroni & cheese, helper meals, pasta sides, etc.

Dairy – shelf stable and canned milk

Proteins – beans, peanut butter, canned meats & fish, nuts, etc.

Miscellaneous – condiments, sauces, dressings, oils, gravy, jelly, sweets, snacks, drinks, baking items, mixes, etc.

Personals – shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, bar soap, detergents, toilet paper, feminine hygiene, tissues, baby items, diapers, etc.

Other – baby food and pet food
Last but not least: CONTACT INFORMATION

We know there will be bumps along the way, so if you have any questions or concerns while planning your food drive- please do not hesitate to reach out to us!

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