

BONNEY LAKE FOOD BANK

HOST A FOOD OR FUND DRIVE

Food Drives are a great way to engage others in supporting our cause of eliminating hunger within our community.

HOW TO RUN A FOOD OR FUND DRIVE

1. Determine the Basics of your drive:

- Decide if you will collect food, raise money or both. [See Creative Ideas for the drive](#)
- Determine the length of your drive. Set the start and end dates.
- Get boxes to hold food donations. The best boxes to hold canned goods are boxes that hold reams of paper because they are sturdy.
- Designate a collection and storage area for the donations.
- Plan how you will deliver your donations to the Bonney Lake Food Bank.
- Establish an overall goal for your organization and/or an individual goal. (X number of pounds or X amount of cash.)

2. Ask for Support:

- Get a core group of volunteers involved to help you.
- If you will have multiple donation locations, designate a Food Drive Coordinator at each of the locations. Create a plan for frequent communication among coordinators in order to gauge progress and troubleshoot challenges.

3. Brainstorm Ways to Get the Word Out:

- Advertise throughout your community and/or organization to raise awareness and increase participation. Create flyers, e-mail notices, social networking.
- Hold a “kickoff” at the start of your drive.

4. Generate Enthusiasm and Participation:

- Decorate your collection boxes with drawings, flyers or colorful wrapping paper.
- Plan special theme days such as Meal Mondays, Tuna Tuesdays (using the Top 5 Most needed items as your guide).
- Encourage friendly competition.
- Create a “thermometer” or chart to track the progress of your event’s fund raising and food donation goals

5. Box It Up, Then Bring the Boxes to the Food Bank, or Call the Food Bank to Pick Up the Boxes

6. Announce your Results

- Share Food and Fund Drive results with everyone who participated.
- Send thank-you cards or letters.

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CREATIVE IDEAS FOR FOOD or FUND DRIVES

Competitions

Create competitions between neighborhoods, classrooms, or other groups to see who will collect the most donations. Use number of items donated to determine the winner. Make sure the winners get a special prize for their winning donation!

Preferred Food Items

Utilize the list of preferred food items and designate “items of the day” for people to donate each day.

Donation Bags

Plastic or paper bags are distributed to participants to take home and return it full of food. Include a preferred food items list in the bags as a reminder of the items needed.

Special Events

You can partner your food drive with a special event. If there’s an admission fee to the event, consider using food as a full or reduced admission.

Throw a Party

Consider hosting a party and ask everyone to bring ingredients to make a favorite recipe. Ask them to include a copy of the recipe.

Fundraisers

Have a bake sale, car wash, pancake breakfast, or?

Raffles or Auctions

Solicit local businesses, your company or staff for prizes to raffle or auction.

Loose Change

Have a “loose change” bin sitting at your company’s cafeteria or break room. As employees eat lunch they can put their loose change in the collection bin to be donate to the Community Food Bank.

Penny Wars

Find large glass jars, place in rooms and have a race to see who can fill up their jars with pennies.

Company Matches

If you’re a business, encourage donations by offering to match employee contributions.