



Supplying Food to Local  
Pantries and Soup Kitchens

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# How to Hold a Food Drive

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Fighting Hunger  
Feeding Hope

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Your Company Name Here

# The Essential 8 Foods (we always need)



Supplying Food to Local Pantries and Soup Kitchens



CANNED FRUIT



OATMEAL



CANNED VEGETABLES



MACARONI & CHEESE



CANNED TUNA



CANNED MEATS



PEANUT BUTTER



PASTA

**When:** Place your drive dates here

**Where:** Where to donate items

Place any other information here.

Your Company Logo here

# Food Bank Facts

The Food Bank of Northwest Indiana's mission is to provide nutritional support to those in need of hunger relief through its network of 100 community agencies across Lake and Porter Counties--with the ongoing focus of ending hunger and helping individuals in our community move towards self-sufficiency.

## HOW WE WORK:

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*Since its inception in 1982, the Food Bank of NWI has distributed more than 100 million pounds of food.*

*We supply food to more than 100 agencies who serve the poor, children, elderly, or people in crisis.*

*Last year more than 3.5 million pounds of food were distributed to agencies serving those in need with enough food to feed more than 10,000 people each week.*

*The Food Bank's administrative and fundraising costs are only 3%. This means that 97 cents out of every dollar donated goes back to provide food to those in need.*

*Because of our bulk buying power and charitable donations, the Food Bank is able to provide 5 meals for every \$1.00 donated.*

*17,000 donors support the Food Bank: Corporations, small businesses, churches, and individuals.*

*The Food Bank also operates four direct service programs: the Kids Café, Mobile Pantry, Community Cupboard, and the Backpack Program.*

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## HUNGER FACTS:

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*There are 120,000 Indiana residents at risk of hunger each day in northwest Indiana. The majority of those we serve are the working poor, seniors, women, and children – and now with our recent economic crisis – the unemployed.*

*With the current economy, the number of people seeking food assistance has increased as much as 74% over a year ago.*

*According to the Child Food Insecurity study by Dr. John Cook, 16% of children in Indiana are food insecure.*

*Thousands of northwest Indiana senior citizens (65 years and older) are living in poverty. Many choose between paying for prescription medicines and buying food.*

*Since the current economic recession, a large percentage of the working poor are experiencing food insufficiency. Many find that their salary doesn't stretch to pay household and heating bills, transportation, day care costs, and food for their table.*

*According to the latest Census, 740,371 residents in the state of Indiana are living in poverty.*

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## Is the Food Bank a food pantry? If not, what is the difference?

The Food Bank is not a food pantry. The Food Bank distributes food to local non-profit hunger relief agencies, such as food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters.



Grocers, retailers, manufacturers and farmers donate food to the food bank.



The Food Bank sorts, stores and distributes the food to hunger relief agencies.



The charities give the received items to hungry men, women and children.



Each day, the Food Bank and our agencies help those in need move from hunger to hope!

## Does the Food Bank ever provide food directly to needy families, children and seniors?

Yes! The Food Bank has implemented several direct service programs to ensure that underserved populations have equal access to emergency food assistance.



### ***The Backpack Program – a child hunger relief program***

The Backpack program provides low-income children with a free food filled bag packed with six easy to prepare meals for the weekend break from school. Currently, the Food Bank feeds more than 200 children and packs 3,600 backpacks filled with food.



### ***Kids Cafe – a child hunger relief program***

Kids Cafe® is a national program founded by Feeding America and administered locally by the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana. It is a place where children through 18 years of age can come to receive free, nutritious evening meals in a safe, supportive environment.



### ***Mobile Pantry***

Often times, the Food Bank identifies extremely distressed communities that do not have access to a traditional food pantry. In this situation, the Food Bank will serve as a mobile pantry unit and will arrive at a location such as a community center and provide free grocery items to the community. To date, the Food Bank has distributed more than 180,000 pounds of food to 1,000 families and seniors.



### ***Community Cupboard***

Many of those who are working poor cannot access food pantries do to scheduling conflicts with their jobs. We offer these people a chance to come by and shop in our store from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, well past normal food pantry hours. We also provide eligible clients with a \$35 emergency food voucher to use while shopping. We offer milk, bread, pastries, produce and all other donated items free of charge. Our good are priced well below retail value so clients can get a whole lot of bang for their thirty five bucks. Anyone can come in and shop, but you must be a Lake or Porter County resident plus meet our financial eligibility guidelines in order to qualify for the voucher.

# HOW TO PROMOTE YOUR FOOD DRIVE



- Have a kick-off party!
- Send out shopping lists of most needed items.
- Keep a running tally of pounds donated and let your co-workers know how they're progressing.
- Display weekly totals in high-traffic areas.
- Set a goal for your food drive based on the number of expected participants. For instance, # of participants x Lbs. per person = Goal in Lbs.
- Establish a central collection point in your office.
- Send out subtle reminders like grocery bags on everyone's desk.
- Foster that competitive spirit between offices or departments with challenges for most food collected or most nutritious food collected.
- Host theme days like "Fish Friday" to encourage donations of high protein foods like tuna fish.
- Encourage management to get involved. Encourage management and executives to send e-mail reminders about the drive.
- Investigate the possibility of your employer matching donations for each pound of food collected.
- Remind participants that real people benefit from your kindness. Last year, with the help of generous donors like you, the Food Bank distributed more than 3.5 million pounds of food through our network of over a 100 agencies.

# FOOD DRIVE THEMES & SUGGESTIONS

Food Drives don't have to be just once a year! Here are some other ideas and suggestions to do if you want to host another food drive - any time of the year!!

**Spring:** "Spring In To Action to Fight Hunger"

**Summer:** Baseball theme "Let's Strike Out Hunger"  
"Hunger Never Takes a Vacation"

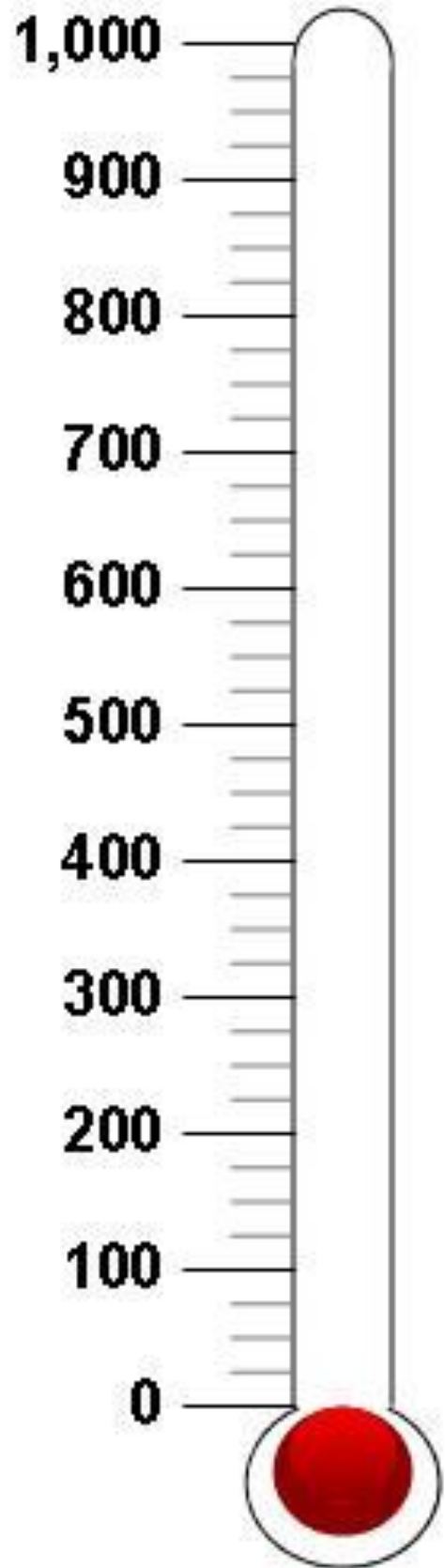
**Fall:** Halloween theme "Scare Up Some Food"  
"Hunger Is No Treat"  
Thanksgiving "Sharing Is Caring"

**Winter:** Holiday Season "Hope for the Holidays"  
"Hunger Never Takes a Holiday"  
Lincoln's Birthday "Abolish Hunger"  
Valentine's Day "Have a Heart - Do Your Part"



# Thermometer Chart

*Your Business Logo Here:*  
*+ Food Drive Goal:*



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Supplying Food to Local  
Pantries and Soup Kitchens

# Food Drive Form

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Start Date of Food Drive: \_\_\_\_\_

End Date of Food Drive: \_\_\_\_\_

Barrel(s) Request? Circle *yes/no* If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

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