



Loaves & Fishes

Ending Hunger  Empowering Lives

Organizing a Food Drive

Thank you for your interest in organizing a food drive to support Loaves & Fishes Community Pantry in our mission to end hunger and empower people throughout DuPage County. Use the checklist below to help get your food drive started.

STEPS

1. Determine participation level:

Individual, team or multi- team event

- Volunteering is more fun in groups and a little competition between teams makes the event exciting and builds camaraderie! See reverse page for more details.
- Consider the following sources for teams: Church, Family, Club, Workplace, Friends, Neighborhood, School (high school, middle school, elementary school, college), Scout Troop, Sports Team, Youth Group, etc.

2. Pick a theme for your drive and give it a name

- At right are some suggestions for food drive themes. Feel free to be creative and/or establish your own theme.
- Monetary donations are appreciated: **every \$5 donated equals \$50 of purchasing power!**
- You can also find a list of our most needed items at: <http://www.loaves-fishes.org/mostneededitems.html>

3. Determine logistics

- Start & end date
- Central location for donation drop-off
- Transportation of goods to Loaves & Fishes

4. Promote your drive

- Promote your drive through social media, websites, posters, fliers, church and community bulletins, and word of mouth.

5. Start collecting, have fun, and contact us when you're ready to drop off what you collected!

- Call us at (630)355-3663 or send e-mail to reception@loaves-fishes.org

Theme Ideas	Products
Breakfast of Champions	Hot & cold cereals
"Have a Healthy Heart"	Canned chicken breast, fruit, & vegetables
Moo-la	Raise cash to purchase dairy – milk, cheese, butter, and yogurt
Spring Cleaning	Cleaning supplies, paper towels
Summer Lunch for Kids	Individual size fruit cups, pudding cups, grape jelly, juice boxes, cereal
"Meat" Hunger Head On	Canned meat drive – canned tuna, chicken, and ham
Hot Summer & Cool Cash!	Raise cash by holding garage sales, car washes, etc.
Back to School!	Backpacks & school supplies
Healthy Starts	Granola bars for our School Nutrition Program
Sensitivity Training	Special Diet Needs: Gluten-free products, low/no sodium, and sugar-free
Fall Mixer	Canned mixed vegetables
Giving Thanks	Raise money for Holiday meals \$20 buys an entire meal for a family of 8.
Ho, Ho, Ho Holiday Hams	Canned ham drive (1 – 5 lb. cans)
Baby Shower	Baby food, formula, diapers, and wipes
General	Non-perishable food, household goods, cleaning supplies, paper products

We do not pay sales tax, and through our cooperative buying power we can turn a **\$5** donation into = **\$50** worth of food for a hungry family



Make it a Contest

Multi-team competitions can both increase results as well as promote team building, camaraderie and a sense of community. Plus it's fun!

1. Determine number of teams and select 1-2 captains for each team.
2. Establish and assign people to teams.
 - Make it fun – use food groups, vitamin names, or other grocery-related categories for team names.
 - Divide team members along department lines or alphabetically based on name distribution. For example: Operations, Engineering, HR, etc., or A - E, F - Mi, Mj - R, S - Z.
3. Prepare collection area by providing a tub, large box, or shopping cart for each team to put donations in.
 - Include a secure box for cash/check donations. Contact Loaves & Fishes for a cash box if needed.
 - If using one cash box for all teams, remind teams to label their donations with team name.
4. Label each box with the team name and captain's names, if desired.
5. Announce the drive throughout the company or organization.
6. Each week of the drive, consider displaying a progress chart to encourage and motivate giving.
7. Reward the winning team or even all participants with a social, such as a pizza party.



Please always remember that Childhood Safety Comes First. Children under 18 years of age should be accompanied by an adult.

Kids can help, too!

Scout troops, school classes, and families can have fun with some great year-round projects:

1. Assemble birthday bags for our young clients, ages 2-12.
 - Decorate plain bags or purchase party bags.
 - Fill bags with cake mix, frosting, candles, plates, cups, napkins, tablecloths, party decorations, etc.
2. Collect and assemble paper and plastic bags for Pantry distributions.
3. Sponsor bake sales or "No-Bake" sales where would-be bakers have the option of sending in a donation instead of baked goods.
4. Collect cash donations outside local grocery stores, with permission of Loaves & Fishes and the grocer.

What We Do

Loaves & Fishes Community Pantry works to end hunger in Naperville and all of DuPage County. We provide food and educational programs that tackle root causes of hunger. 44% of those we serve are children.

Last year (FY 2011), Loaves & Fishes:

- Enrolled 1,496 new families, representing an 86% increase since 2008.
- Provided nourishment to 68,765 individuals in 19,341 distributions.
- Made 2,988 deliveries to homebound elderly and disabled residents.
- Supplied 20,540 students in grades K through 12 breakfast assistance during the school year and lunch June - August.
- Provided 966 infants and 3,345 toddlers with baby food, formula, and diapers.
- Distributed over 2,225,000 pounds of groceries (equal to about \$6.1 million retail)

Visit our website to learn more about us and discover all the ways you can help ensure every individual in our community has enough to eat!

www.loaves-fishes.org
donate • volunteer • support



1871 High Grove Lane • Naperville, IL 60540
PH: 630.355.3663 (FOOD) • www.loaves-fishes.org
As a registered 501(c)(3) charity, all donations are fully tax deductible.