



### What is a food drive?

A food drive is an organized effort by an individual or group to collect food items for those who face hunger in the community.

### Who can host a food drive?

Anyone can host a food drive! Individuals, corporations, faith-based organizations, schools, clubs, neighborhoods, and any other groups are welcome to host a food drive.

### How do I get started?

First, we ask that you fill out our registration form. You should receive a confirmation email within 72 hours.

### Can I host a food drive anytime?

Absolutely – people face hunger every day of the year. Although many food drives take place during the holidays, we encourage groups to host food drives throughout the year in order to keep our warehouse shelves well-stocked.

### Can I borrow the Food Bank's barrels to collect my food?

Yes – the Food Bank will provide our famous red donation barrels, which can be dropped off at your location at the beginning of your food drive and picked up at the end. You can also pick up barrels from our warehouse yourself. Please indicate your preference in our online food drive registration form.



### Is the barrel delivery and pickup service free?

Yes

### How big are the barrels?

Our red food donation barrels are about 3 feet tall and 2 feet wide. Each barrel can hold up to 200 pounds of nonperishable food.

### Can I use my own boxes for food donations?

Yes, you may use your own boxes in lieu of our red barrels. Our goal is to make your food drive as easy and convenient for you as possible.

### How do I schedule a pick-up?

Your pickup will be scheduled immediately after registration, and you will receive this date in your confirmation email. If your barrels become full during your food drive and you want to schedule an additional pickup, please contact the Food Bank and we will stop by on our next available pick up time.

### How long should my food drive last?

The Food Bank has no restrictions on how long or short your food drive should last, but we recommend about two weeks.

### Can I drop off food donations at your warehouse?

Yes! Instead of using our pick up service, you may drop off the food yourself. Stop by the Food Bank anytime Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Our address is 9850 Distribution Ave. San Diego, CA 92121.

### What items should people donate?

The Food Bank always needs a variety of nonperishable goods, such as canned meats, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned soup, peanut butter, beans, cereal and oatmeal. A list of our most needed items is on our website. We cannot accept homemade goods, glass jars or alcohol of any kind.

### Do you accept household products and non-food items?

Yes, we also accept household cleaners, pet food, baby diapers and hygienic products. Please keep all non-food items separated from food items.

### Can people donate money instead of food?

Absolutely. For every dollar donated, the Food Bank can provide the equivalent of 5 meals.

### Will you tell us how much food we donated?

Yes, the Food Bank will weigh your entire donation, provide a poundage total, and give you a donation receipt.

Have more questions? Please email the Food Bank's Food Procurement Coordinator, Kimberly Castillo, at [kcastillo@sandiegofoodbank.org](mailto:kcastillo@sandiegofoodbank.org).