



Food Drive Kit

Thank you for reaching out and wanting to make a difference in your community. One of the best ways to donate and to give back is by hosting a food drive. Hosting a food drive helps ensure that we can help provide for our clients in a dignified and timely manner. Our Emergency Food deliveries are boxes filled with food and everyday necessities for our clients in need.

You will find some suggestions for creating a successful event: tips and FAQs; a list of our most requested items; logos; fun theme ideas; and anything that you might need to have a successful and enjoyable event!

Please feel free to reach out to Madeleine through mbond@stmatthewshouse.ca if you need anything from SMH, such as organizing pick up or drop off of donations, arranging for a speaker, creating posters, social media, photos, etc.

Your friends at St. Matthew's House, and the community we serve, would like to say **THANK YOU**. We cannot do this without the support and participation of friends like you.



Let's get started! The first thing to do is select a date for the event. Some groups will host an event for a couple of hours and others host a week-long collection. We leave those decisions up to you and your team. We have listed several themed ideas for FUNraising if you need some inspiration...or be creative and create your own!

- *Can Hunger: Collect only canned goods.*
- *An Apple a Day Keeps Hunger at Bay: Collect plastic jars of applesauce, plastic cups of applesauce, and even bags of apple chips.*
- *Uncanny Meat Drive: Collect high-need canned meats like chicken, SPAM, ham, tuna, and salmon.*
- *Get Crackin' on Hunger: Collect all types of crackers that are full of whole grains.*
- *Pantry Raid: Collect pantry staples like herbs and spices, cooking oils, and baking items such as flour and sugar.*
- *Give a Meal This Instant: Collect healthier instant foods such as instant mashed potatoes, instant oats, and instant rice.*
- *Go Nuts!: Collect high-protein, unsalted nuts and nut butters or nut butter alternatives.*
- *Warm Their Hearts: Collect canned or packaged items typically served hot like soups, stews, and chili.*
- *Bring Us Your Breakfast: Collect non-perishable breakfast items such as whole grain cereals, breakfast bars, pancake mix, syrup, and even shelf-stable or powdered milk.*
- *Allergic to Hunger: Collect staple food alternatives for people who have food allergies like gluten-free, nut-free, and dairy free canned and packaged foods.*
- *Hold a workplace/school challenge: prizes for the winning team who collects the most food.*
- *Hold a workplace/school challenge: prizes for the winning team who raises the most food/money.*
- *Make can sculptures: Google or Pinterest "Canstruction" for inspiration.*
- *Have a "Casual Dress Day": donate to participate.*
- *Host a golf or bowling tournament.*
- *Host a used book sale or bake sale: event admission for every can or box brought.*
- *Have a staff/school BBQ*
- *Fill the principle/ boss's office challenge.*
- *Hold a raffle at your office, church or at your event.*



You will also want some volunteers to help with promotion, planning and with the collection of food on the day of the event. We always say that one person cannot do it all but we are small and mighty and can get it done together as a community. Volunteers are a great help with promotion and many hands on tasks.

Now is the fun part: **PROMOTION!** Once you've established your team, yell it from the rooftops! Social media is a huge help with spreading the word about upcoming events. You can create events, post in groups and use it to promote all the needed information of how to help make this food drive a huge success. Email blasts through work, organizations and friends are always helpful in making this a team effort and helping to spread the news of the upcoming event. Word of Mouth is by far the best way to get your event information out to our community!

We have included our logos on the USB stick as well. This image is not to be altered with in any shape or form. If you would like us to create a food drive poster with our logos we would be more than happy to if provided the necessary information.

We always love to be tagged in all events through social media whether it is through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and through our website too! We would love to help you promote your event in any-way that we can so please do not hesitate to reach out to us for anything.





Tips and FAQs

Please drop off your food drive donation our food warehouse is located at our Seniors Support Program location at 705 Main Street East. The ramp entrance is off of St. Clair Ave. Right inside our ramp door is our scale and we will have everything weighed for a final count for you.

We can also arrange a pick up if needed. Please email and schedule this when you set a date so that we can coordinate with our emergency food delivery program to ensure that it doesn't interfere with our client deliveries

We do have a few large blue donation bins that can be used to collect non-perishable food at your event. Please confirm pick up or delivery of the bins when you set your date for the food drive. A little reminder to please not mark on the bins as we reuse them for multiple events and food drives. Reusing boxes collected from friends and family is a great way to help the environment and to help pack items donated from your event.

We do have the ability to accept donations that are perishable. We have fridges and freezers onsite at 705 Main Street East. We usually only accept perishable items to events that are hosted same day so that we can have them stored safely for our deliveries. Please reach out to us for more information if needed.

Monetary donations are gratefully accepted. We often have to purchase food to ensure that clients reaching out to us receive enough in their food boxes. We have the ability to bulk order which reduces the cost of the product. We have provided a donation form for anyone that wishes to donate cash or make a credit card donation. We also accept donations through our website at www.stmatthewshouse.ca

We will gladly offer a tax receipt for any monetary donation with attached form and contact information provided. Items won at at live or silent auctions or at any raffle are not eligible for a tax receipt. Please note that offering a tax receipt as a raffle is not allowed by CRA.