

COMMUNITY ACTION FOOD DRIVE FAQ

1. **Why should I do a food drive with Community Action Services**

We are a trusted and stable community agency that has been serving our community for 50 years. We help hundreds of families every week get back on their feet and better their lives. In addition to our 4 food pantries, we provide resources and education to really make an impact. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people become self-sufficient.

2. **How do I register my food drive?**

Every food drive needs to be registered. This helps everything run smoother for everyone. You can register your drive [here](#).

3. **What are your most needed items?**

Dry goods such as flour, sugar, cereals, pastas, condiments and canned meats go quickly. Be sure to check out our current [most needed items](#).

4. **What am I responsible for?**

You are responsible for registering your drive, promoting your drive, collection containers and transportation of good if at all possible. It really helps us to maximize our limited resources if you can use your own resources to store and deliver the food. If you would like us to assist in transportation, there is a \$25 to cover our costs.

5. **Do you provide collection barrels?**

If you really want to make an impact, we ask that you use boxes or other containers you may have around. We have limited barrels and resources to deliver them but if needed, we will happily provide them. We ask that if transportation is required on our end that you make a minimum \$25 donation to help off set our costs.

6. **Do you provide transportation for food drive containers?**

We encourage you to use your own transportation if at all possible. Most food drives, can fit in the back of truck. If you do require transportation, we ask you make a \$25 donation to help cover our cost of gas, truck maintenance, and labor.

7. **Can I add a financial contribution to my food drive?**

Yes, please! Monetary donations can go a lot further than you might think. For every \$1 donated we are able to purchase about 15 pounds of food from local grocery stores. That's enough to feed a family of 4 for a day! Through your generous donations, we can provide our clients essential items like bread, milk, meat, eggs, and more. You can write a check, donate online, or use some collection buckets that are available upon requests.

8. Is my donation tax deductible?

It is. If you need a receipt, be sure to stop by during business hours. A worker will weigh in your donation and give you a receipt. You can that receipt for your taxes.

9. Will you accept open/partially used food?

It depends. If it's boxed, like cereal for example, and the inside package is sealed, then yes. For all other foods, we ask that the seal not be broken. Keep in mind, we try to provide as much dignity and respect for our clients so use good judgment. Ask yourself, "would I grab this and feed it to my family?"

10. Do you accept expired foods?

Yes, as long as the can isn't more than 4 years past the expiration date. For example, in 2016 we will accept donations with expiration dates through 2012 . Most cans are still good long after their suggested expiration date. If the can is oozing, bulging, or missing its label, we recommend just throwing it away.

11. Where will my food and donations go?

Once we receive the food it is sorted and stocked in our various food pantries. We provide food for several other pantries, senior centers, the Food and Care Coalition and others. The food serves as temporary relief for thousands of individuals and families each year. We also are able to provide several other services such as our Financial Learning Center, Potluck Culinary Kitchen, Kids Nutrition Packs, Home Buying Classes and more. All these services we provide with your help, are aimed at helping everyone break free from poverty and become self-reliant.

12. Who do I contact if I have more questions?

You can call or email Dave Smith at dsmith@communityactionuc.org 801-691-5201. You're also able to call Meghan Goodman at mgoodman@communityactionuc.org 801-691-5202