



What Is A Food Drive?

A Food Drive is a wonderful way to partner with the Kennett Area Community Service (KACS) Food Cupboard in our fight to end hunger by increasing the supply of food resources for those in need.

Food Drives can be conducted by churches, neighborhoods, businesses, unions, service clubs, schools, military units, scouts, sports teams or any group of dedicated people who understand it takes local action to solve a local problem.

These drives are critical to the ongoing mission of collecting and redistributing millions of pounds of food to children, the elderly and families in our area who don't know where their next meals are coming from. Every month, our services reach 1,200 individuals and we need your help to ensure there will be food to distribute for today and tomorrow.

Monetary donations are equally as important and are used to source nutritious, perishable food such as produce and dairy, which we cannot collect from community food drives. We can turn every \$1 donated into 10 pounds of food.

Your Time Is Incredible Important As Well!

The KACS Food Cupboard understands how valuable the gift of time is in all our lives. That is why we greatly value our volunteers! You become a partner in the fight against hunger by giving the gift of time by volunteering at the Food Cupboard after your Food Drive is complete!

Each week, around 60 committed volunteers donate their time to helping the KACS Food Cupboard sort food, pack food, distribute food and even grow fresh food. We need your help!

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator to schedule a time for your group to volunteer.

Email: kate.miller@kacsonline.net
Sign up online: www.kacsonline.net

RUNNING YOUR FOOD DRIVE

SIX EASY STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL FOOD DRIVE

1. Set your goals.

No matter what your approach, it helps to have a specific goal for your Food Drive. This gives participants something to work toward and a benchmark for success. KACS tracks all food donations by weight so the goal can be based on the total weight collected, the amount raised the last time, or you can set a goal based on the number of participants.

EXAMPLES:

An organization with 300 people:
300 people x 5 pounds per person = 1,500 pounds of food

An organization with 300 people:
300 people x \$5 per person = \$1,500 or 15,000 pounds of food (\$1 = 10 pounds of food)

3. Gather food boxes and containers.

Printing paper boxes work well for Food Drives. You can go to local copy/print shops and ask for the boxes. They are sturdy and still manageable when filled with food, plus you can have fun with decorations. KACS also has some boxes or large blue barrels which can be picked up.

4. Start early and promote.

Share information throughout your organization and community to raise involvement early in the process. Utilize posters, flyers and signs to promote your drive. You can also remind people about your food drive in your e-mail signature or voicemail message. If your organization has a website, post information about your drive during

the Food Drive to keep everyone updated on its progress.

5. Set up a central location.

Collection sites should be visible and easy to find. Collect donated food and grocery items at central locations like break rooms, common meeting rooms and reception areas. Assign one or two individuals to be responsible for collecting financial contributions. Make all checks payable to the Kennett Area Community Service. If you are using a virtual drive, share the link.

6. Schedule pick-ups or food drop-offs.

Contact the Food Cupboard to schedule pick-ups. Please call at least 5 business days in advance. Food can be dropped off Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM. When you deliver your collected donations, you help us keep overhead costs low.



Kate Miller
Nutrition Services Manager
Kennett Area Community Service
kate.miller@kacsonline.net

Kennett Area Community Service
136 West Cedar Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-925-3556
www.KACSONline.net

FOOD DRIVE COORDINATORS MANUAL

Here are a couple of innovative suggestions to create energy and team building around your Food Drive. Think outside the box and have fun!

1. Organize a contest between departments, teams or groups with awards for the group that raises the most food and/or financial contributions. Give prizes like a pizza lunch, a free party, an extra hour for lunch or breakfast with an executive.
2. Hold a party or lunch as part of the drive with the price of admission set at 5 cans of food or a \$5 donation.
3. Get coworkers or businesses to donate prizes for a drawing. Sell tickets or give one ticket for each bag of groceries donated. Hold the drawing at the end of the food drive.
4. Offer rewards for people who participate, like a casual dress day, blue jean Friday or a free doughnut breakfast.
5. For retailers or restaurants, encourage customers or employees to round up purchases to the nearest dollar or other round number. Donate the difference to the Food Cupboard on their behalf.
6. Ask your vendors or business partners to help you reach your goal by donating \$100, \$500 or \$1,000 to the KACS Food Cupboard through your donation drive! Treat the vendor or business partner that donates the most to lunch and a tour of the Food Cupboard so they can see their donation in action!
7. The KACS Food Cupboard also accepts cash donations so they can buy what is most needed. Encourage your company to make donations on-line. Take advantage of the Food Cupboard's ability to leverage bulk buying and to make purchases at deeply discounted prices. It's fast, easy and fun! Making a donation is just a click away!
8. Set up coin cans in prominent locations for people to donate spare change.
9. Ask colleagues to bring a bag lunch and donate the money that they would have spent.
10. Ask colleagues to skip a meal and donate what they would have spent on food. This will also give participants perspective on how going without food impacts their daily activities.



Kate Miller
Nutrition Services Manager
Kennett Area Community Service
kate.miller@kacsonline.net

Kennett Area Community Service
136 West Cedar Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-925-3556
www.KACSONline.net



Help Fill the Shelves at Kennett Area Community Service

We appreciate all food donations; the following items are in highest demand. Please also check dates on your food donations. We cannot use expired items that are more than 6 months beyond the package date.

Pantry Items:

Canned low sodium vegetables (low sodium) **Especially Lima Beans, Carrots, Peas, and Mixed Vegetables**

Tomato Sauce

Whole, Stewed, and Diced Tomatoes

Canned low sodium soups

Canned fruits---light in sugar

Canned 100% juice---no flavored drinks

Jelly

Fresh Items, which will handle one week of storage

Bag of apples

Bag of oranges

Bag of grapefruit

Bag of potatoes

Bag of onions

Grains:

Rice (white and brown)

Spaghetti and pasta noodles

Low-sugar Cereals (Examples: Cheerios, Rice Krispies, Rice Chex, Wheat Chex)

Flour or corn meal

Oatmeal

Milk Products:

Canned or boxed milk

Non-dairy, shelf stable milk options (Examples: soy, almond, rice)

Proteins:

Dried beans

Tuna

Canned meats---low sodium

Peanut Butter

Let's work together to support the Food efforts to fight hunger and feed hope! Together we can make a difference!

Kate Miller
Nutrition Services Manager
Kennett Area Community Service
kate.miller@kacsonline.net

Kennett Area Community Service
136 West Cedar Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-925-3556
www.KACSONline.net