The Lord's Supper Homeless Ministry

Can Food Drive Resource Packet

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Tips for Hosting a Successful Food Drive

- 1. **Select specific dates.** Determine what time frame would be most effective in maximizing participation: a day, a week, or a month.
- 2. **Organize!** A successful food drive often depends on those who organize it, so be sure to enlist the help of people who are dedicated, enthusiastic and good at motivating others.
- 3. **Set a goal.** Reaching for a target can help build momentum. Remember the more cans you collect the more of our homeless friends you can provide with life-sustaining nutrition.
- 4. **Promote your food drive.** Promote your event early and often. Display posters in highly visible locations. Send out e-mails, text messages and voice mails. Include reminders in newsletters or on your website.
- 5. **Make it easy to donate.** Put collection boxes and contribution canisters in high-traffic, easily accessible locations. If your facility is large, consider having more than one drop-off point.
- 6. **Reward participants!** Perhaps run a denim 4 donation event: Donate 10 cans and wear jeans to the office for a week.
- 7. **Pack up your donations.** Pack your donated food into sturdy boxes that aren't too heavy and securely tape the bottoms. If The Lord's Supper Homeless Ministry is picking up the donated food, please gather it into one location that is accessible by a dolly.
- 7. **Celebrate your success!** Share the results with everyone. Send out thank-you notes, throw a party and recognize those who contributed.
- 8. **Make it a contest.** Set up friendly competitions between departments within your school or business. See who can donate the most cans! Provide an inexpensive prize like blue ribbons or a pizza party!

Most Needed Canned Items

Think meals in a can! High calorie and high protein meals are extremely important for the homeless as they are life-sustaining. Most often the homeless are not fortunate enough to have 3 meals a day like non-homeless individuals enjoy. Meals in a can do not require water to be added and they are ready to eat. Pop top cans that don't require a can opener are great too.

Canned items like Chunky Soup, Chef Boyardee Pasta, canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken Breast or Vienna Sausages,) Dinty Moore Beef Stew and Chili with beans are all great options. Think hearty and filling! We do NOT need canned vegetables as they offer very little calorically or nutritionally. Peanut butter is also a great item providing protein and a caloric punch.

