Ideas to help your group relieve hunger in the Miami Valley
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CONTACT US

To learn more, for questions and ideas, and to start your campaign contact Lizz Kelly, Volunteer Manager or Lee Alder, Development and Grants Manager.

ONLINE:  thefoodbankdayton.org
PHONE:  (937) 461-0265 x 33 (Lizz) x 13 (Lee)
EMAIL:  lkelly@thefoodbankdayton.org
          lalder@thefoodbankdayton.org
ADDRESS:  56 Armor Place
           Dayton, Ohio 45417
HOURS:  Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Leading the charge to relieve hunger for our Miami Valley neighbors.
The Foodbank is committed to relieving hunger through the acquisition and distribution of food to hungry people throughout the Miami Valley.

The Foodbank will ensure that food relief is available in our service area to all hungry people, while upholding our six core values of:

**ACCOUNTABILITY**
We will honor the public’s trust by maintaining the highest standards of ethics and stewardship.

**ACCESSIBILITY**
We will ensure all stakeholders equitable access to The Foodbank and its resources.

**ADVOCACY**
We will be the voice in the community about hunger and speak out for those who do not have a voice. We will maintain and communicate information to others about hunger.

**AVAILABILITY**
We will ensure that quality and nutritious food and related supplies are available throughout our service area.

**COLLABORATION**
We will actively seek to form and broaden collaborations committed to furthering our mission to relieve hunger.

**SERVICE**
We will serve others in a courteous, sensitive, and compassionate manner.
ABOUT HUNGRY TO HELP

What is Hungry to Help?

Hungry to Help is a community resource used to support groups and organizations that wish to get involved with relieving hunger for our Miami Valley neighbors.

Benefits

- Through Hungry to Help every member of your group, organization, or workplace can participate.
- Hungry to Help offers opportunities for team-building throughout the organization.
- Leadership development opportunities, including project management and public speaking, are created for individuals.
- Public recognition is offered for participation, and your organization can lead the way in the fight against hunger, setting an example in the community.

Flexibility and Convenience

- You can use the ideas in this toolkit at any time, picking the most convenient and impactful time for your organization.
- The activities can be as simple or elaborate as desired.
- Each activity is customizable, to match the needs of your organization.
- Staff resources and support are readily available.

We Need You!

- The Foodbank serves 107 programs annually, distributing over 7 million pounds of food.
- With your contribution, additional families can be fed and more people can learn about The Foodbank’s mission to end hunger!
**HUNGER FACTSHEET**

**National Hunger Statistics (2012)**

- 15.0 percent of all people, **46.5 million**, were in poverty.
- 13.7 percent of people ages 18-64 were in poverty.
- 3.9 million seniors 65 and older were in poverty.
- 49.0 million Americans lived in **food insecure households**.
- Households with children reported food insecurity at a significantly higher rate than those without children, **20.0 percent** compared to 11.9 percent.
- 6.2 million households in the U.S. accessed **emergency food** from a food pantry or soup kitchen one or more times.

**Local Hunger Statistics**

- Ohio is **one of ten states** that had a statistically higher household food insecurity rates than the U.S. national average 2000-2012.
- 40% of the members of households served by The Foodbank are **children** under 18 years old.
- 23% of households include at least one employed adult.
- Among all client households served by emergency food programs of The Foodbank, 87% are food insecure*.
- Among **households with children**, 41% are food insecure with very low food security**.
- 38% of clients served by The Foodbank report **having to choose** between paying for food and paying for utilities or heating fuel.
- 31% had to choose between paying for food and paying their rent or mortgage.

**Impact**

- In 2012, **26,785 weekend backpacks** were provided to food-insecure children.
- 2.2 million pounds of **fresh produce** were distributed in 2012.
- Through 144 different sites, The Foodbank provides emergency food for an estimated **70,000 different people** annually.

*Low or very low food security

**Access to enough food is limited by a lack of money and other resources

Data from Feeding America and Hunger in America 2010 study

thefoodbankdayton.org
**HOW CAN I HELP?**

**Raise Goods**
- The Foodbank distributes **7 million** pounds of food annually.
- Organize a food drive to raise non-perishable items to donate to the Foodbank.
- Get your entire organization, school, or group involved! See Get Started! and Activities pages for ideas.

**Raise Funds**
- Just **$10** can be used to provide **40 meals**.
- Organize a fun drive or leadership campaign, and watch your donations multiply exponentially!
- Involve your friends, coworkers, or group. See Get Started! and Activities pages for ideas.

**Raise Awareness**
- **49 million Americans** go hungry or are at-risk for hunger every year.
- During 2012, The Foodbank served over 600,000 clients, 87% of which were food insecure.
- Increasing awareness of hunger in America is crucial to ending hunger. When we increase awareness of the hunger issue, we not only let others know a problem exists, but also encourage others to get involved and dispel some of the myths about hunger.
- See Get Started! and Activities page for awareness-raising ideas.
GET STARTED!

1. Learn About The Foodbank
   • Connect with us (See Contact Us on page 2), schedule a tour, and get the basics

2. Engage Leadership
   • Get support for your campaign

3. Build a Committee
   • Recruit the extra hands you need to help

4. Plan the Project
   • Select dates and choose activities

5. Advertise & Inform
   • Make posters, send emails, and distribute flyers to tell people about The Foodbank, your project, and how their support helps

6. Get Going!
   • Carry out the project, track and publicize results, and submit your donation (see Contact Us on page 2 for drop-off information)
CONNECT AND PUBLICIZE

The success of your project will depend on how well you get the word out. Here are some tips for utilizing social media:

Connect with The Foodbank

VISIT thefoodbankdayton.org
LIKE Foodbank Dayton at facebook.com/thefoodbank
FOLLOW @FoodbankDayton at twitter.com/FoodbankDayton
SUBSCRIBE to TheFoodbankDayton at youtube.com/user/TheFoodbankDayton
FOLLOW Foodbank Dayton at pinterest.com/fdayton

Why Use Social Media

- Showcase your organization’s philanthropic involvement in leading the fight to end hunger.
- Build awareness of hunger in your community and The Foodbank’s mission to end it.
- Motivate others to participate and get them excited for the event!

Steps for Publicizing on Social Media

Tag The Foodbank in all promotions. Use #hungrytohelp for all tweets and posts.

1. Promote upcoming activities
   Be sure to include date, time, and location.
   Example: Join us tomorrow for [our activity] to support The Foodbank!

2. Explain why you’re involved (See Hunger Factsheet)
   Example: We support The Foodbank because 40% of food requests are for households with children.

3. Announce your progress and results
   Example: Thanks to everyone who participated today to support [our activity] – we raised over XXX pounds of food to benefit The Foodbank!
   Create a video of your event and post on YouTube, publicizing it on social media.

4. Challenge Peers
   Example: We’re fighting hunger with The Foodbank! What can you do to join us?
FOR EVERYONE

Food Fundraiser
Try anything food or goods related to raise money. Have a bake sale, dessert auction, or potluck meal. Host a car wash, craft sale, or yard sale. Spread the word about The Foodbank and hunger to your customers and donate all proceeds to benefit The Foodbank.

Good-To-Go Greetings
Each week, The Foodbank distributes 1,400 Good-to-Go Backpacks to children who are at risk for going hungry over the weekend. To go along with the backpacks, write cheery notes to send to children to brighten up their weekend. This is a great chance to be creative!

Make Room for the Hungry
Place an empty bowl or an entire place setting at your table or in your classroom to remind you of those who go without nutritious food each day. Every day, count something in your home or class, such as number of stuffed animals, number of coats in your closet, or number of pencils in a bin. Put a coin in the bowl for each item counted. At the end of 30 days, donate the coins you collected to The Foodbank.

For more details on this project, including a “calendar” of items to count each day, see the book Doing Good Together: 101 Easy, Meaningful Service Projects for Families, Schools and Communities by Jenny Friedman and Jolene Roehlkepartain (Free Spirit Publishing, 2010).

Create a Cookbook
Collect favorite family-friendly recipes from friends and neighbors, add drawings and personal comments, and then look online for design and binding options. Along with recipes, includes facts about hunger and ways for people to get involved in ending it. Sell the cookbook to family, friends, and your social media contacts and donate proceeds to The Foodbank.

Construction Competition*
Start a friendly competition between classes, teams, or departments over who is the most architecturally minded. Designate a portion of time for donations of food items to come in and for groups to plan out their canned-goods design. At the end of the fundraiser, host the building competition and award prizes to the most donations raised, the most creative structure, and overall best design. Take plenty of pictures before deconstructing the creations, sorting the goods, and dropping off the donations at The Foodbank.

Canned Goods Collection
Encourage your community to raise goods for The Foodbank. Drop off cards at each house in the neighborhood, encouraging them to leave out canned goods for you to collect on a certain date. Then pick up and sort the goods, and deliver them straight to The Foodbank. If possible, make this a regular effort! Be sure to write thank you cards to leave behind when picking up donations. (See page 10 for drop-off card template).
Pantry Party*
Host a party to help fill The Foodbank’s pantries! If celebrating your birthday, instead of presents, have your guests bring 10 canned goods. Or, host a barbeque and charge an entrance fee of 2 canned goods. At the end of the party, drop off goods to The Foodbank, and challenge your guests to host the next one.

Mobile Food Packing
Help The Foodbank pack food for seniors or students. A great project for large groups with the space, The Foodbank brings the items directly to your site for your group to sort and assemble. Before the event, be sure to create greeting cards from your group to go directly into the food packs.

Community Garden
Have unused lawn space and are unsure of what to do with it? Collect your teammates, coworkers, group members, and friends and start a garden for the Foodbank! Either build raised beds or plant directly in the ground. Garden throughout the year by planting root vegetables and squash for the autumn and winter, and vegetables from the vine and greens for the spring and summer. See www.almanac.com/vegetable-garden-planning-for-beginners for tips and ideas.

Penny Wars*
Compete with other classes, departments or groups. For a week, see who can raise the most pennies and canned goods. Earn positive points for each penny and can of food, while quarters, dimes, nickels, and bills take away points. At the end of the week, have a party to count the donations received, the team with the most points wins!

WORKPLACE CAMPAIGNS

Jeans Day
Designate a day each week for your employees to dress down. Have employees who want this benefit bring in either $5 or 8 canned goods, to last them for the month, with all proceeds going to The Foodbank.

Food Stamp Challenge
Do you have what it takes to eat on four dollars a day in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits? Challenge your coworkers to take the challenge for a week, to raise awareness and understanding as to what it takes to live on SNAP benefits. At the end of the week, donate the excess money that normally comprises your food budget to The Foodbank.

Macaroni Mondays, Tuna Tuesdays*
Pick a week to encourage donations of much-needed foods. Pass out grocery bags to your co-workers for them to fill with the day’s items. Use Macaroni Mondays, Tuna Tuesdays, Wheat Bread Wednesdays, Soup Thursdays, and Fruit Fridays (or make up your own!).

Leadership Campaign
Encourage employees to donate a portion of their income to The Foodbank. Offer convenient methods of donation, such as payroll deduction. Use incentives (i.e. an extra day off) to increase participation.

*Donation Barrel needed – contact The Foodbank for pick-up.
FOOD DRIVE NEEDS

If planning a food drive, all non-perishable foods can be utilized. For those who ask what to bring, distribute this list of The Foodbank’s most needed items.

**Basic Foods**
- Hearty Soups
- Stews (Beef, Chicken and Dumplings)
- Chili
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Macaroni and Cheese

**Meat/High Protein Group**
- Canned meats: ham, chicken, meat spreads
- Canned fish including tuna, salmon, sardines, other fish
- Nuts and seeds
- Rice and Beans

**Dairy Group**
- Evaporated milk
- Powdered milk
- Puddings & custards

**Fruits & Vegetables**
- Canned fruits: peaches, pears, pineapples, applesauce, fruit cocktail
- Canned juices: apple, cranberry, tomato and vegetable
- Canned vegetables: green beans, peas, corn, tomatoes, potatoes

**Breads, Cereals & Pasta**
- Hot and cold breakfast cereals, including oatmeal and cream of wheat
- Baking mixes: pancake, corn bread, cake mixes/icing, quick breads
- Pastas and canned sauces

**Other Items**
- NOTE: Must be boxed and stored separately from all food items
- Cat and dog dry and canned food
- Non-food Household products
- Paper – toilet, tissues and towels
- Soap – Bar and liquid

CANNED GOODS COLLECTION

Did you know that **6.2 million people each year** access food pantries or kitchens?

Help ___Group Name___ and The Foodbank fight hunger by donating goods that will serve hungry families across the Miami Valley.

On ___Date___, by ___Time___ leave non-perishable food items on your doorstep for members of our group to collect, and be a part of the fight to end hunger.

Visit thefoodbankdayton.org or facebook.com/thefoodbank for more facts about hunger and how they are working to end it.
Use the resources below to wrap-up the project and encourage further learning and service. These resources are especially suited for youth.

Reflect

- Why is it hard to picture what it’s like to be hungry when you always have plenty to eat?
- Have you ever been hungry and had to wait to get food? How did it feel?
- Close your eyes and imagine if you ate only one meal a day for days or even weeks. How do you think that might feel?
- Why do you think some people don’t have enough nutritious food?
- Do you think you should help those who are hungry? Why or why not? What other things could our family do to help out?
- When we donate our money, how do you think The Foodbank uses it to help people who are hungry?
- How else can we raise awareness as well as money for this cause?
- How did it make you feel to tell people about The Foodbank and raise money to help their work?
- What other types of charities are there and how do they help people, communities or the world?

Learn More

Print Resources

- **Stone Soup** by Anne McGovern (Scholastic, 1996).
- **What the World Eats** by Faith D’Aluisio (Tricycle Press, 2008).
- **Kids Against Hunger** by Jon Mikkelsen (Stone Arch Books, 2008).
- **Doing Good Together: 101 Easy, Meaningful Service Projects for Families, Schools and Communities** by Jenny Friedman and Jolene Roehlkepartain (Free Spirit Publishing, 2010).

Online Resources

- [feedingamerica.org](http://feedingamerica.org) – Learn more about hunger across the nation.
- [volunteerdayton.org](http://volunteerdayton.org) – Find more volunteer opportunities in the Dayton area.
- [bigheartedfamilies.org](http://bigheartedfamilies.org) – Simple, fun and engaging activities for your family to live generously.
- [learningtogive.org](http://learningtogive.org) – A site with comprehensive curriculum for students discussing social issues and community service.
- [thevolunteerfamily.org](http://thevolunteerfamily.org) – Find resources and opportunities to volunteer with your family.