



**OZARKS
FOOD HARVEST**

THE FOOD BANK

FOOD & FUND DRIVE GUIDE

Give Time. Give Money. Give Food. Give Hope.

Transforming Hunger into Hope™

ozarksfoodharvest.org



About Ozarks Food Harvest

Ozarks Food Harvest is the Feeding America food bank for southwest Missouri, serving 200 hunger-relief organizations across 28 Ozarks counties. The Food Bank distributes more than 16 million pounds of food annually, and its network and direct service programs serve 260,000 unduplicated individuals.

How The Food Bank Works

The Donors

Growers | Processors | Restaurants | Manufacturers | Distributors | Retailers | Wholesalers
Food Service Operators | Food Drives | USDA



Ozarks Food Harvest

Using the latest technology, The Food Bank distributes and tracks donated food to over 200 hunger-relief organizations in southwest Missouri.



OFH Member Agencies

Food Pantries | Youth Programs |
Community Kitchens | Soup Kitchens |
Senior Centers | Day Care Centers |
Rehabilitation Centers | Homeless Shelters |
Residential Shelters



The Clients

Children | Working Poor | Families | Newly
Unemployed | Homeless | Mentally Ill |
Elderly | Disaster Victims

How Food & Fund Drives Help Those in Need

Everyone can host a food drive. Food and fund drives can be hosted by all ages. They work well at businesses, schools, clubs, places of worship and public events. It is a great way to get young volunteers involved in the fight against hunger!

Provides better selection for clients Food and fund drives provide some of the healthiest and most nutrient-rich food donations to The Food Bank. They provide individuals seeking emergency assistance with a better variety to choose from.

Food drives raise awareness about hunger in the Ozarks. Hosting a food and fund drive helps raise awareness and educate others about the need for hunger relief in our community.

Every \$1 donated to The Food Bank provides \$10 worth of food distribution and services. Financial donations to purchase and transport food are critical for food distribution. A customized virtual food drive is an easy way for businesses and organizations to raise funds for The Food Bank online and it requires little work from the host.

OFH Direct Service Programs

After-School | Mobile Food Pantry | Weekend
Backpack Program | Senior Food Program
Full Circle Gardens Program | Summer Food Program



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Facts about Hunger in the Ozarks

Share these important facts to raise awareness of the need for food donations.

Ozarks Food Harvest distributes 16 million pounds of food annually and supplies to 200 member agencies. The need for hunger-relief services has increased during the past two years. Food and fund drives help meet the increasing need for help.

Every \$1 donated through a fund and food drive provides \$10 worth of food and services. Of every dollar donated, 96 cents goes directly to feeding our neighbors in need.

One of every four Ozarks children is food insecure, making Missouri fifth in the nation for child food insecurity. Currently, nearly 1,600 children participate in our *Weekend Backpack Program*.

Each month, seniors face hard decisions such as paying for prescriptions or buying groceries. Malnutrition can have a negative impact on the effectiveness of medicine. The Food Bank has increased its Senior Food Box Program from 500 to 2,000 boxes monthly.

Most families seeking food assistance have at least one working adult. Hunger is an income problem. The high cost of housing, healthcare, childcare and fuel make it difficult for low-income families to have enough money to buy food.



Name: Adek Age: 43 State: MO Zip: 65616 Branson

Please check all that apply to you: volunteer or donor employed supporting a family have health issues
use government assistance difficulty paying bills

Tell us about your experience with the issue of hunger:
I am out of work right now so needing help putting food on the table

Ozarks Food Harvest's Network serves 30,000 individuals across 28 Missouri counties every week. That's 260,000 children, families and seniors who benefit annually from our food drives.



Food collected from food drives are some of the most nutritious food that Ozarks Food Harvest receives. The Food Bank also distributes hygiene items such as soap, toothpaste, toilet paper and laundry detergent. These items cannot be purchased using SNAP, formerly known as food stamps.

Children who are hungry have difficulty learning in school. Early childhood hunger and malnutrition can result in health problems later in life such as obesity, diabetes, kidney and heart disease.

Nearly 70 percent of people standing in food pantry lines in the Ozarks report going without meals in order to pay for other bills.

YOU can make a difference in the fight against hunger. Donate time. Donate money. Donate food. Advocate to educate others.

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Plan for Success

Make it fun, simple, and convenient for donors.
Register your food drive at ozarksfoodharvest.org so we can help!

- **Register your food drive at ozarksfoodharvest.org/fooddrive.**
- **Determine the timeline.** Food drives that span anywhere from one day to two weeks are most effective. If you have a high traffic area, consider becoming an ongoing drop-off site.
- **Schedule a time to pick up promotional materials and donation receptacles prior to the event.** Ozarks Food Harvest can provide boxes, barrels or large totes to collect food. Money jars are available to collect financial donations.
- **Arrange to deliver donations to The Food Bank after the event.** Food drives must be at least 300 pounds, one full barrel, for pick-up by Ozarks Food Harvest. Please allow two to three business days for pick-up requests. Saving Ozarks Food Harvest the delivery or pick-up of your food drive is equivalent to making an additional \$50 donation!
- **Promotion is the key to a successful drive!**
 - Use posters with event details in high traffic areas and distribute handouts before the event. An 18 x 24 poster is available for pick-up.
 - Send an email with details and a link to your Virtual Food Drive.
 - Post the drive in newsletters, church bulletins or a letter to editor.
 - Use envelope or paycheck stuffers to promote, see info in this guide.
 - Post event details on community calendars, social media and submit a press release to local media, if appropriate. Like Ozarks Food Harvest's Facebook page to share event posts or tweet us on Twitter at @ozksfoodharvest.
 - Hold a kick-off event and distribute grocery bags with a list of most needed items and information about your food drive. *Samples of promotional items available upon request.*



When I am hungry I
say I want to eat
now and they say sorry!
Name Jalisa Age 8

- **The Food Bank can promote your food or fund drive event on Facebook and Twitter.** The more details you can provide, the better we can promote your food drive and help you spread the word!
- **Monitor food drive progress to ensure your goal is reached!** Create a giant food can or thermometer to track progress and post in high traffic areas to encourage participation.
- **Say THANK YOU to participants for taking a stand against hunger.** The Food Bank will weigh food donations and provide total weight of the food drive. Every 1.2 pounds of food provides one meal.
 - Hold a celebration and share the results!
 - Express appreciation in cards, emails, notes on bulletin boards, church bulletins or a letter to the editor of your local paper.

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Host a Virtual Food Drive

Online fund drives raise donations & awareness

Every \$1 donated provides five meals. Virtual Drives are an easy and secure way for participants to donate online. Ozarks Food Harvest staff will create a customized Virtual Drive webpage specifically for your organization. You will be provided with link to share with your group.

As the administrator of the drive, you will have access to the progress of your fundraising efforts. You can use this information to inform participants of progress and motivate your group to reach fundraising goals. Create a friendly competition between departments or different offices and award prizes or acknowledgement to the group that raises the most donations.



You just need to give us your logo, color scheme and the name and dates of your virtual drive, and we'll do the rest! Go to ozarksfoodharvest.org/fooddrive for an example of our virtual drive or to donate now!

Help Hero, Inc. Fight Hunger!

1 of 5 children in SW Missouri is unsure of where their next meal will come from. Ozarks Food Harvest encourages you to help our neighbors in need by donating through your organization's Virtual Food Drive. Your monetary donation will be used to purchase products at a bulk discount rate, support OFH direct hunger relief programs such as the Weekend Backpack Program and Mobile Food Pantry and keep our delivery trucks on the road for day to day distribution.

Your Donation

\$31.08

Total Units

3

Checkout
Empty Cart

Description	Retail Price	Price	UOM	Qty.	Total
Green Beans	\$15.84	\$9.11	24/14.5 oz.	1 <input type="text"/>	\$9.11
Fruit Cocktail	\$19.08	\$9.29	12/15 oz.	0 <input type="text"/>	\$0.00
Tuna	\$42.72	\$22.50	48/6 oz.	0 <input type="text"/>	\$0.00
Peanut Butter	\$29.88	\$14.25	12/18 oz.	0 <input type="text"/>	\$0.00
Beef Stew	\$21.48	\$13.04	24/15 oz.	1 <input type="text"/>	\$13.04
Macaroni & Cheese	\$12.00	\$6.25	24/7.25 oz.	0 <input type="text"/>	\$0.00
Chicken Noodle	\$18.00	\$8.93	12/10.75 oz.	1 <input type="text"/>	\$8.93
100 % Juice Boxes	\$15.16	\$13.18	4/10-6.75 oz.	0 <input type="text"/>	\$0.00
\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	1	0 <input type="text"/>	\$0.00
\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	1	0 <input type="text"/>	\$0.00

Monies received by the Charity will be used for the purchase of items to be given to those in need. Actual product mix and quantities purchased may vary.

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Think Outside the Donation Box

Get creative! Themes can be a fun and effective way to get the most participation.

Food Fight Encourage friendly competition between classes or departments. Make a one-of-a-kind trophy from a canned food item covered in a custom label!

Beans for Jeans Allow employees to donate for dress down days, reserved parking spots, candy treats or leave early passes.

Free with Donation Offer incentives for donating such as free admission to events, discounts or coupon with donation of nonperishable food items.

Share your Lunch Ask participants to bring a lunch bag full of food or donate what would normally be spent on lunch out.

Macaroni n' Cheese Monday Tuna Tuesdays, Wheaties Wednesday, Thirsty Thursday (fruit juice) and Fruity Friday (canned fruit). Themed days are an easy way to remember what to donate!

Dinner for Two Create simple menus for full meal donations such as spaghetti dinner (pasta, canned sauce, green beans and garlic biscuit mix) or Tuna Helper meal (tuna, meal mix, canned vegetable and canned fruit for dessert).



Harvesting Hope Collect canned veggies to create a garden in the lobby. This is a great reminder for donations!

Souper Bowl Hold a soup or chili cook-off for the big game! Ask tasters to vote for their favorite dish with spare change.

Empty Bowl Partner with local art classes to create hand made ceramic bowls to be sold at a soup dinner. A donation purchases the bowl and dinner.

Can Castle Hold a canned food sculpture contest and ask students/employees to vote with spare change. There are many ideas online!

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Think Outside the Donation Box

Set a goal — five donations per participant is a great place to start!



Lemonade Stand Hold a car wash, bake sale, lemonade stand, ice cream social, spaghetti dinner, carnival or raffle and charge donations for services, goods or tickets.

Give Them A Hand Create and post colorful paper cutouts of hands that are sold to employees/students for \$1. Hang them in the lunchroom or break room to show that the individual whose name is on the hand was generous with a gift to the drive.

Rock the Vote Have participants vote with spare change or food donations for an executive or teacher who will have to complete an agreed upon activity. The individual with the most votes may have to kiss a cow, shave their head or get a pie in the face.

The Guessing Game Fill a jar with jelly beans and ask participants to buy \$1 chances to guess how many items are in the jar. The closest guess wins the contents of the jar.

Appreciation Grams Create a fun gram to be delivered to co-workers or students for a small donation! Holiday-themed trinkets to be delivered with the gram might include jelly beans for Easter, Hershey Kisses for Valentine's Day, pet rocks for a 70's theme or candy corn for Halloween. Take pre-orders for one week in the break-room, provide a gram for donor to write a message. Then, deliver to recipients on the holiday.

Movie Night This is a great idea for those who work or go to school in a building with a media room that has a large screen. Ask for a \$2 donation to see the movie and \$1 for a bucket of popcorn.

Guess the Baby We all have at least one embarrassing baby picture buried in our photo albums. Display baby pictures of each employee and have a contest to see who can guess who the babies are! Sell guess sheets for \$5.

Fruit of the Spirit Ask church members to donate canned fruit one Sunday a month. Fruit is one of The Food Bank's most requested items.

Share your creative ideas. We would love to celebrate your success stories!



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Spread the Word

Raising awareness of the need for donations and promotion of your event are key to a successful food drive!

Promotional materials and samples are available upon request.

From: [Company name here]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 2:05 PM
To: [Company Name] Employees and Friends
Subject: Become a Hunger Hero!
Importance: High

Dear Friends;

[Company Name] has partnered with Ozarks Food Harvest to help Transform Hunger Hope™ for thousands of Ozark families! 80,000 individuals across 28 southwest Missouri counties rely on food assistance from The Food Bank each month. Ozarks Food Harvest distributes one million pounds of food monthly but the need continues to grow. They need help.

With the increase in unemployment many families are choosing to go without a meal to pay bills. Nearly 178,000 individuals in Southwest Missouri are food insecure – meaning they do not know where their next meal is coming from.

[Company Name]'s go Ozarks! Donation sites donations will be accepted from [beginning date through ending date].

The most needed items are:

- Boxed & canned meals (soup, mac n' cheese, Hamburger Helper)
 - Proteins (canned meats, tuna, chicken & Spam)
 - Canned fruits & vegetables
 - Pasta & canned spaghetti sauce*
 - Peanut butter & jelly*
 - Baby items—diapers, wipes, formula and baby food*
 - Kitchen staples—flour, sugar, spices, oil*, condiments, salt & pepper
 - Paper products—plates, napkins, eating utensils, cups
- *NO glass, please.

YOU can help Ozarks Food Harvest meet the growing need within our community with your donation of food and funds. For just \$1, The Food Bank can provide \$10 worth of food and services. Please, help us support The Food Bank by donating today.

Together we can *Transform Hunger into Hope*,

[Food and fund drive coordinator name here]
 [Company Name]



Client photos & testimonials

When I am hungry I ask my mom and she says we don't have nothing. We're supposed to have a full refrigerator but we don't. I don't like it when I'm hungry.



YOU can be a Hunger Hero

Did you know The Food Bank serves 80,000 individuals each month? Join Ozarks Food Harvest & Hero Inc. to fight hunger in SW Missouri.



Most Needed Items

- Boxed & canned meals (soup, mac n' cheese, Hamburger Helper)
- Canned meats & proteins (tuna, chicken, bean & rice)
- Canned fruits & vegetables
- Pasta & canned spaghetti sauce*
- Peanut butter & jelly*
- Baby items—diapers, wipes, formula and baby food*
- Kitchen staples—flour, sugar, spices, oil*, condiments, salt & pepper
- Paper products—plates, napkins, eating utensils, cups

*NO glass, please.
 Every \$1 donated to The Food Bank provides \$10 worth of food & services.

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Please Donate to the Hero Inc. Food Drive!

August 3rd—9th
 Barrels located in the lobby
 Hero Inc.
 1865 S. Catalina

Thank you for making a difference!

Envelope stuffers — great for paychecks

Press release & email samples — just plug in event information

[Your Company/Org Logo Here]

News Release

For Immediate Release
 [Month Day, Year]

Media Contact:
 [Contact Name, Contact Phone Number]

[Company/Organization Name] hosts food drive for Ozarks hungry

[Your City], Mo. — [Organization Name] is hosting a community food and fund drive benefiting the regional food bank, Ozarks Food Harvest, [Month Day] through [Month Day] at [location].

Food collected through the food drive will be distributed by Ozarks Food Harvest to 250 nonprofit charities across 28 southwest Missouri counties, reaching an estimated 20,000 individuals weekly. For every dollar donated, The Food Bank provides \$10 worth of food distribution and services.

"We are proud to join Ozarks Food Harvest's mission of transforming hunger into hope," said [Name, title at company/organization]. "We know the need is great and hope the community steps up to help us collect food and funds for our Feeding America food bank [or other quote]."

Most needed food items include canned meat and tuna, peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, soups and stews and canned or boxed meals. Paper products and personal hygiene items, such as paper towels and toilet paper, are also accepted. All donations should be in undamaged and unexpired packages. No glass containers are accepted. A complete listing of needed items can be found at ozarksfoodharvest.org/fooddrive.html.

Ozarks Food Harvest officials say despite signs of economic recovery, record numbers of Ozarks families are relying on food assistance. Since moving into its new facility, the O'Reilly Center for Hunger Relief, in 2009, The Food Bank has increased distribution by 59 percent across its service area. Ozarks Food Harvest now distributes 12 million pounds of food annually via its direct service programs and its network of member agencies.

About Ozarks Food Harvest

Ozarks Food Harvest is the Feeding America food bank for southwest Missouri, serving 250 hunger relief organizations across 28 Ozarks counties. The Food Bank distributes 12 million pounds of food annually to 170,000 unduplicated individuals. OFH was named the 2011 Small Business of the Year by the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, and its facility, the O'Reilly Center for Hunger Relief, recently received a Superior AIB International Food Safety Rating. Learn more at ozarksfoodharvest.org, [facebook.com/ozarksfoodharvest](https://www.facebook.com/ozarksfoodharvest) or twitter.com/ozksfoodharvest.

About [Your Company/Organization Name]

[Boilerplate here]

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**OZARKS
FOOD HARVEST**

THE FOOD BANK



Most needed items:

Tuna, salmon & other canned meat

Peanut butter

Beans, soups & stews

Boxed meals, rice & pasta

Canned vegetables & fruit

Cereal

Your donation will help serve 260,000 individuals across 28 counties!
Transform Hunger into Hope at ozarksfoodharvest.org.

