

FOOD FIGHT



Help provide meals during the 10th annual Food Fight!

Host a fundraiser for Ozarks Food Harvest anytime
between now and March 12, 2021

Traditionally, Food Fight is a district-wide competition among Springfield Public Schools. In light of the challenges schools are facing this year, we are asking local businesses and organizations to raise funds to help provide meals for food-insecure children, families and seniors in southwest Missouri.

Every dollar raised will help provide \$10 worth of groceries.

Offices, Churches and Organizations

- Join the Food Fight fundraiser at mightycause.com/event/foodfight
 - Employees working from home, vendors and clients can participate online
- Host a traditional fund drive to collect cash and change
- Offer pay-to-play activities such as a raffle for prizes or a cutest pet contest

Retail Stores

- Invite customers to round up their bill at the register
- Accept donations of \$1, \$3 or \$5 at the register. We can provide a UPC code and easy-to-use scan cards.
- Offer a featured item and donate a portion of the proceeds

For more information or to join
the fight against hunger visit
ozarksfoodharvest.org/foodfight21



Partner Talking Points and Resources

COVID-19

Thanks to so many generous supporters, Ozarks Food Harvest was able to purchase an additional \$2.2 million worth of food in 2020 to ensure our network of food pantries didn't struggle to keep their shelves stocked during this unprecedented time. The Food Bank provided a record-breaking 14 million meals between April and December, 2020—that's \$23 million worth of food and funds for local hunger-relief organizations.

The Food Bank also hosted more than 110 Mobile Food Pantries targeting displaced workers and low-income families who rely on school's free and reduced meal program. Many clients are seeking food assistance for the first time in their lives this year. As of December, these distributions provided more than 1 million meals to assist nearly 42,000 individuals. We will continue to host Mobile Food Pantries in communities across the Ozarks through the new year.

Ozarks Food Harvest is the largest COVID-19-related donor to charities in southwest Missouri. The Food Bank has tirelessly met the needs of our 270 hunger-relief partners this year and, we need your help to continue providing uninterrupted service for families facing hunger in 2021.

Please help us spread the word by sharing information about Ozarks Food Harvest's hunger relief mission.

Ozarks Food Harvest Videos

- 7 minute about OFH - vimeo.com/124547662
- 60 second about OFH - vimeo.com/97752766
- Weekend Backpack Program (2020) - vimeo.com/454137335
- Client story, Elvin - vimeo.com/221654564
- Volunteer story, Karla - vimeo.com/220704857
- Just for Kids - vimeo.com/246151251
- Feeding America's Hidden Hunger - www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5otFCpv3Cg

Quick facts and corresponding website links

- Annually, Ozarks Food Harvest distributes 22 million pounds of food and supplies to serve children, families and seniors facing hunger in southwest Missouri. One in four people in the Ozarks receive food assistance through The Food Bank's network. Read more about the issue of hunger in the Ozarks at ozarksfoodharvest.org/our-network/hunger-in-the-ozarks and The Food Bank's programs that help meet the need at ozarksfoodharvest.org/programs.
- Ozarks Food Harvest is the Feeding America food bank for southwest Missouri, distributing food and supplies to 270 nonprofit organizations across 28 Ozarks counties. Learn more about our network and who we serve at ozarksfoodharvest.org/about/our-network.
- For every \$1 donated to Ozarks Food Harvest, four meals, or \$10 worth of groceries, are provided. Out of every \$1 donated 96 cents goes directly to helping people in southwest Missouri in need of food assistance. Read more about Ozarks Food Harvest's Four Star Rating with Charity Navigator at ozarksfoodharvest.org/media/ozarks-food-harvest-earns-ninth-consecutive-four-star-rating-from-charity-navigator.
- Volunteers are urgently needed to inspect donations and pack food boxes. On average, nearly 4,000 volunteers donate 30,000+ hours of time, but during the pandemic, volunteer engagement has drastically declined. View and schedule volunteer opportunities at ozarksfoodharvest.org/volunteer.

For more information, contact:

Sarah Byrd

Community Engagement Coordinator

sbyrd@ozarksfoodharvest.org

417.865.3411 x 137

Jennifer Sickinger

Community Engagement Manager

jsickinger@ozarksfoodharvest.org

417.865.3411 x 110

