

Gleaners Distribution Centers

- Our original distribution center and headquarters in Detroit has a total of 92,000 square feet of space that accommodates 3 million pounds of food (more than a month's supply). Its freezers and coolers cover 16,450 square feet.
- The Livingston Distribution Center in Howell is a 5,800 square foot freezer, cooler and dry storage facility strategically located to serve Livingston County. Our Client Choice Pantry is the first of its kind in southeast Michigan.
- The Taylor Distribution Center covers 11,870 square feet and serves the downriver and western Wayne County communities. In 2008, Gleaners and Fish & Loaves launched a client choice pantry at the energy efficient site.
- The 35,000 square foot Joan and Wayne Webber Distribution Center in Warren, in partnership with the Salvation Army, offers similar benefits for agencies that serve Macomb County.
- The Oakland Distribution Center in Pontiac is a 22,000 square foot freezer, cooler and dry storage facility serving Oakland County, formerly known as the Food Bank of Oakland County.

Our Truck Fleet

A fleet of trucks and drivers are in service six days a week, responding to both scheduled and emergency needs. Our trucking capacity ranges from vans to refrigerated heavy-duty trucks to large rigs that can transport up to 40,000 pounds of food per trip. Each year, the Gleaners fleet travels thousands of miles hauling donated food from many sources to our warehouses. Computer-generated map routing is used to speed deliveries and save resources.

Our Inventory System

The food is off-loaded in the distribution centers with machinery that can handle the pallet-sized loads. Bar code scanners and computerized inventory systems track the boxes as they are organized and stored. With just-in-time inventory control, a great volume of goods can be managed to best serve the needs of member agencies.

Once the shipments are organized and sorted, they are often divided into units sized for the convenient use of member agencies (few ever need a full pallet of spaghetti sauce!). A portion of the food is organized into Gleaners Pantry Pacs. These are boxes of pantry staples that are shelf stable and provide well-balanced meals. The boxes are conveniently sized for a family and are packed by volunteers.

A portion of our food is packed for our Backpack and Smart Bites programs, which reach hungry kids with nutritious foods. The volunteers that pack these foods are often kids themselves, through our Kids Helping Kids® program!