

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

See our [Food Drive Manual](#) for detailed food drive instructions, information about Gleaners, and helpful suggestions.

## How long should my drive be?

For most organizations, 2-3 weeks is best. You want to give people enough time to get their donation in, without losing a sense of urgency and excitement.

## What items are needed the most?

Food drives should focus on nutritional nonperishable food items. No glass please. Proteins (peanut butter, tuna) and boxed items (cereal, pasta) are most needed. See “Suggested Items to Donate” in our Food Drive Kit for a full list of items.

## How do I get the food drive donations to a Gleaners Distribution Center?

We ask that whenever possible, you deliver your donations to one of our five warehouses. By saving Gleaners the expense of trucks, drivers and gas, you leave more dollars for feeding hungry people. Per our pickup policy, we can pickup donations of 250 pounds or greater.

## Can you pick up my donations today?

In order to make the most efficient use of our funds, we pre-schedule our drivers. We ask that you schedule a pick-up at least one week ahead of time. Please allow for more time between October and December, as this is our busiest time of year.

## How do I determine what my donation goal should be?

Setting a goal is a great way to motivate donors, and it provides a sense of accomplishment at the end of your drive. We suggest asking participants to donate five pounds or five dollars to the drive.

## What if we are a small office? Can we still help?

Absolutely. There are many ways you can participate:

- You can collect food in your own containers and deliver to one of our warehouses.
- Join forces with other businesses in your area to meet the 250 pound goal.
- Participate in a Virtual Food Drive. Go to [www.gcfb.org/virtualfooddrive](http://www.gcfb.org/virtualfooddrive) for more information.

## What would you prefer be donated: food or money?

Gleaners is grateful for any and all donations. Food drives not only provide the food needed by our hungry neighbors, but also create a connection between donors and the people they are helping. On the other hand, monetary donations will yield more food as Gleaners can buy at deeply reduced rates. For every dollar donated, Gleaners can provide three meals. We also require funds to keep our freezers and trucks running. Ninety-four cents of every dollar donated goes directly to food and food programs.

## What is the best way to collect monetary donations?

Placing our donation canisters at your office or school provides much needed funds and means you don't need space for food drive boxes. We also have a virtual food drive option for your organization, allowing you to spread the opportunity to give quickly and easily. Being able to donate online is a convenient option for donors.

## How much does a can of food weigh?

The average can of food weighs 15 oz -- almost a pound.

## What supplies can Gleaners provide?

Gleaners can provide food drive collection boxes, posters, donation canisters, stickers (“I Fed Someone Today”), and a virtual food drive page. See the section “Gather Supplies” in the Food Drive Manual for more details.