## FOOD DRIVE TOOLKIT

#### YOU CAN HELP FIGHT HUNGER!

Please join the Westmoreland Food Bank's mission to enable our neighbors to have ready access to food, and host a food drive to help us provide for our neighbors.



# FOOD DRIVES 101 LET'S GET STARTED!

#### **SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS**

While we certainly don't require you to let us know that you are planning to host a food drive, we would love to hear from you! We are also happy to answer any questions you may have around getting started and share best practices for success.

Westmoreland Food Bank Food Drive Contact Person:

Gina Colosimo
724-468-8660 extension 31
Gina@WestmorelandFoodBank.org



### WHY HOST A FOOD DRIVE?

#### **SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS**

Please consider hosting a food drive among your family, friends, workplace, community groups, or school!

A lot of little actions (and items) really do add up when a group of people get together. No effort is too small!

Remember, these efforts support your neighbors, children in your schools, and seniors in your community.

Food Drives supply a steady stream of nutrition to all of our programs including: Food Pantries, Community Meals, Military Share, Fresh Express, Mobile Market, and more!

### WHAT ITEMS ARE NEEDED?

#### SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS

Non-perishable items are the most requested food drive items. Please no glass jars. We love all of those tasty sauces too, but with the number of times the food is sorted and handled, broken glass can be a hazard.

#### **Most Requested Items:**

Canned tuna, chicken, or salmon
Canned fruits and vegetables
Canned Meals (Stew, Ravioli)
Peanut Butter
Macaroni & Cheese
Cereal (Whole Grain)
Boxed Meals (Hamburger Helper)

#### All Donated Items must:

Be non-perishable
Have original manufacturer's label
Be free from obvious defects
Within Expiration Dates

### SET YOURSELF UP FOR SUCCESS!

#### **FIRST STEPS**

Find a Champion! Appoint someone to lead your efforts. Let them be creative!

Familiarize yourself with the Westmoreland Food Bank's mission and programs so you can help explain how important donated food is for our organization.

Set a Goal!

Choose your date(s) for the food drive. Food is needed year-round.

Motivate your group by offering incentives, if you wish!

### LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!

#### START COLLECTING

Use a well marked bin, box, or other receptacle in a highly visible location. You want people to know you are collecting for the Food Bank and where they can place their donations. Include near the receptacle a list of most needed items and a flyer clearly showing the dates you are collecting.

Advertise! Include flyers in as many places as you can! Communicate on social media and in employee/group newsletters. Ask your friends and family to share the information.



### FNAL RESULTS!

#### **CELEBRATE YOUR SUCCESS**

Once your food drive has ended, contact the Westmoreland Food Bank to make arrangements to drop off the food collected. Our Food Drive contact person will be happy to communicate with you the best days and times.

If you need to make alternate arrangements, we're happy to talk through the options.

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#### YOUR EFFORTS ARE IMPACTFUL

Never forget what we are capable of doing together. Thank you for choosing to serve your community in remembrance of September 11th.

Your efforts help us to provide for our neighbors facing hunger.

We couldn't do this without you!

