FRANKLIN FOOD PANTRY

FOOD AND FUND DRIVE FAQ

What is a Food and Fund Drive?
A Food and Fund Drive is a collection of food and money on behalf of the Franklin Food Pantry.

How does our Food and Fund Drive impact the Pantry?
The Pantry is a private, nonprofit organization so it counts entirely on donations from individuals, community organizations and corporations. We receive NO funding from the town or state.
Private donations allow us to serve the more than 1,000 individuals who count on us.

Why a Food and Fund Drive?
Whether you are a large or small corporation, or a school district, giving participants
the option to donate money in lieu of, or in addition to food, allows for greater participation in your event.
For many individuals, writing a check or giving a cash donation is preferred.

What does the Food Pantry do with the funds collected from a Food and Fund Drive?
Monetary donations make it possible to:

- Purchase food for a fraction of what it costs in the grocery store.
  We buy food from the Greater Boston Food Bank at the best possible price.

- Supplement the Pantry's inventory with more nutritious and fresh food, such as produce,
  dairy products and meats. The high cost of fresh fruits and vegetables
  can be a barrier to wholesome nutrition for many families.

- Operate with less resources. Food donations require much time, space and labor for sorting,
  date checking and storing.

- Meet community needs all year long, especially during times when food drives happen less frequently.

Who should checks be made payable to?
Checks should be made payable to the Franklin Food Pantry. Donations can also be made online
at www.franklinfoodpantry.org. The Drive coordinator determines the best method for check collection
and communicates specific instructions to potential donors.

What if my organization/school wants to hold a Food and Fund Drive?
- Please complete the online Food and Fund Drive registration form on our website.

Note: Completing this form allows us to plan for your Food and Fund Drive and ensures
we have capacity and staffing to receive and stock your food donations.

What food items are most needed?

Go to www.franklinfoodpantry.org and click on our Current Needs button.

In addition, we will let you know if there are specific high priority needs when you schedule your drive.

It is best to donate "normal" size items versus big box store items. These are easier to distribute to families of all sizes and to fit on our shelves.

Notes:

- All food donations should be nonperishable (canned, boxed, etc.)

- Cash donations allow us to purchase much needed FRESH food to supplement nonperishable donations.

- **We cannot accept expired food.** Please date check all donations.

- We cannot accept items that are open or damaged.

- If time allows, please sort the items collected (i.e., put all the cans of soup in a box. This makes stocking the pantry shelves much easier!)

- All food should be packed in sturdy cardboard boxes or bins (i.e. copy paper boxes).

- If you need your box/bin back, please clearly label it and allow one week for the food to be stocked prior to picking up your boxes.

Does the Food Pantry support other collections, such as a coat drive or backpack collection?

Due to limited space at the Pantry, we ask that all drives collect only food and personal hygiene items.

Can our organization assist with stocking or distributing the items received during our Food Drive?

Due to the constraints of our building, and privacy concerns for our clients, it is difficult to accommodate large groups of volunteers on a single occasion to help with stocking, etc.

We are grateful for the donations you have worked so hard to collect for us. We can take it from here!

Who comes to the Pantry for help?

Typical clients include working families trying to make ends meet, people experiencing a temporary job loss, individuals whose SNAP (food stamps) benefits are reduced, and seniors.

Nearly a third of our clients are children.

What are the designated drop off days/times for a Food and Fund Drive?

Use our Food and Fund Drive registration form to select a specific drop off day/time.

9/12/17