



XVIII. Food and Supplies Drive Checklist

Getting Started

Host a food and supplies drive to help stock necessities for those in need. Stocking up now will make it easier for your community during a flu pandemic, or other emergencies that may arise, when stores may be out of supplies or not accessible.

Set a Goal: Aim high! Set a pounds-per-person goal, or ask people to fill a certain number of bags.

Planning

- Select a coordinator to lead the drive.
- Appoint team captains to take charge of the promotion, kickoff events, and competitions.
- Find a corporate sponsor to store the supplies.
- Coordinate the delivery of supplies to the storage location.

Promote Your Drive and Get the Word Out

- Display posters in high-traffic areas.
- Publicize the drive in your publications and bulletins.
- Send e-mail messages and make announcements at meetings.
- Distribute food/supply collection bags, flyers, and donation envelopes.

Create Incentives

- Give prizes to or sponsor a party for the team that collects the most food/supplies.
- Add fun categories: the most tuna or peanut butter or the most enthusiastic collectors.

Make It Fun

- Build momentum with daily updates on your progress.
- Challenge other groups in your community.
- Hold a kickoff event: Make the admission price a bag of food or supplies.

Schedule Deliveries and Pickups: Offer to pick up items from community members if they are unable to bring them to the drive.

Celebrate Success: Have a post-drive party to congratulate yourselves on a job well done!



Sample Food and Supplies Shopping List: (For additional ideas and suggestions, consult your local Red Cross chapter).

Examples of food and nonperishables

- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fish, fruits, vegetables, beans, and soups
- Protein or fruit bars
- Dry cereal or granola
- Peanut butter or nuts
- Dried fruit
- Crackers
- Canned juices
- Bottled water
- Canned or jarred baby food and formula
- Pet food
- Other nonperishable foods

Examples of medical, health, and emergency supplies

- Prescribed medical supplies such as glucose and blood pressure monitoring equipment
- Soap and water, and alcohol-based (60% to 95%) hand wash
- Medicines for fever, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen
- Thermometer
- Anti-diarrheal medication
- Vitamins
- Fluids with electrolytes
- Cleansing agent/soap
- Flashlight
- Batteries
- Portable radio
- Manual can opener
- Garbage bags
- Tissues, toilet paper, and disposable diapers