

Food Drive

STARTER  PACKET



Perimeter
CHURCH



community outreach
A MINISTRY OF PERIMETER CHURCH

9500 Medlock Bridge Rd | Johns Creek, GA 30097
www.perimeter.org/communityoutreach

“You’re here to be light,

BRINGING OUT THE

God-colors

IN THE WORLD.

God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.”

- MATTHEW 5:14-16 MSG



HUNGRY PEOPLE IN OUR AREA NEED HELP

Food is something that many of us take for granted. We also believe that the people we see around us every day have enough to eat as well, but the truth is over 50,000 children in our community are not sure when they will eat next. Over 20% of children living in Gwinnett, Roswell, Alpharetta, and South Forsyth receive free or reduced lunches at school because their families are not able to provide lunch.

Children who are malnourished or hungry will perform below their potential and often cannot pay attention during class lessons. Some children will drop out of school in order to get a job to help their family provide essentials such as food, rent or utilities. The wonderful news is you can make a difference and share the abundance that God has given you with those who need a little help.

You and your family, neighborhood, Connect Group or Discipleship group may also be wondering if you can collect other items to help. The answer is YES! Gently used children's books, diapers, clothing (all sizes), personal care items (shampoo, toothpaste, feminine hygiene products, etc.) are also needed by many families in our community.

This Food Drive Starter Packet gives specific instruction on how to host a neighborhood Food Drive, but there are lots of other places you can host!

- At work
- At school
- With your club
- With your sports team
- Partner with a local business or restaurant
- Social Media
- Nextdoor Neighbor App

COUPONS & SALES – Don't forget that there are lots of ways to help you get more for sharing with your money. Many grocery stores have weekly items that are Buy One, Get One free. Why not give one away! Ask your friends give you coupons they don't need!



NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE OVERVIEW

Impact our community in a big way by encouraging your neighborhood to provide food for needy families! Make it easy for them by picking up the food from their driveways or holding a “drop-off get-together” at a central place like the neighborhood playground or pool. A head start of 1-2 weeks is advisable.

THERE ARE SO MANY GREAT REASONS TO HOLD A FOOD DRIVE!

- A small effort can produce a large result.
- It’s a great way to meet the neighbors you haven’t met in order to build relationships, while serving the community together.
- It’s a ministry opportunity ideal for singles, groups, families, and children.
- It is easy to do, not overwhelming for any one person, with limited and flexible time commitment.
- It is a great way to help your neighbors serve others in need. Most people want to, but don’t know what or how to donate. You’ll make it simple for them.
- The Gospel can go with you across the relational bridges built with others in your neighborhood simply because you have a legitimate and excellent reason to “knock on their door.” As relationships develop, friendships form. Through friendships, the love and hope of Jesus Christ can be introduced.
- There is always a need for food in the local co-ops.
- Food drives are not just for neighborhoods! Consider coordinating a food drive at work, school or with your sports team!
- It’s FUN!

WHAT ARE COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES? The local cooperative ministries are Christian organizations providing local families in need with food, clothing, financial assistance for rent & utilities, employment assistance, and prayer support. **Thousands** of people are helped each year in our communities! They are supported by area churches, individuals, and a few corporate and foundation donations. The local co-ops are primarily staffed by volunteers, and you are welcome to join the team!



STEP BY STEP PROCEDURES

BRIEF OVERVIEW

1. Advertise on social media (1-3 weeks prior to drive)
2. **OPTIONAL** - Put flyer in Community Bulletin or Mailboxes (1-2 weeks prior)
3. Put Yard Signs in neighborhood (1 week before drive)
4. Collect Food Donations (day of the drive)
5. Sign up Sheet (day of drive)
6. Deliver Food Donations to local co-op (day of the drive). make sure you have scheduled a delivery with the co-op prior to delivery.

DETAILED OVERVIEW

1. ADVERTISE ON SOCIAL MEDIA SITES (1 -3 Weeks Prior to Drive)

Social Media can be a powerful advertising tool. Post on sites such as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and the Nextdoor Neighbor App. Some samples are in this packet but feel free to get creative, use pictures as well as words to tell the community about your drive. Don't be afraid to ask others to share your posts, the more you share, the better your results will be. Be sure to list critical food needs on your post as well. They are also included in this packet.

2. OPTIONAL FLYERS IN COMMUNITY BULLETIN OR MAILBOXES (1-2 Weeks Prior to Drive)

If you decide to promote your food drive with flyers, make sure you check with your HOA before you begin to put flyers in mailboxes or on front porches. You can assign streets or sections of your neighborhood to members of your group or family. Most people may pay more attention to social media and emails rather than flyers.

3. PUT YARD SIGNS IN NEIGHBORHOOD (One week prior)

We recommend that you put a few yard signs out in your neighborhood to remind and give information to your neighbors of the upcoming Neighborhood Food Drive. There may be yard signs from your neighborhood that you can use.



4. COLLECT FOOD DONATIONS (Day of Drive)

There are a couple of options for collecting food donations.

a. If you want to meet your neighbors: Arrange for a central drop off location in your neighborhood (i.e. community pool, clubhouse, tennis courts, your house, etc). Consider having refreshments available (coffee and donuts, lemonade, etc.). This tends to encourage people to stay and converse. In addition to serving the community, this could be a good opportunity for neighbors to meet each other, thus developing a greater sense of community.

Try to arrange for a drop off time that is convenient for as many neighbors as possible who may want to donate groceries (i.e. 9am – 12pm).

b. If you want to collect the most amount of food possible: Arrange to drive through neighborhood and pick up grocery donations left for you on driveways, mailboxes, and/or porches. Be sure to leave (or mail) a thank you note to each person who donated. You can always print a general thank you note and make multiple copies to be given out. Tax receipts can be provided by contacting your Local Cooperative.

If you decide to pick up donations from driveways, be sure to include information about the drive and instructions for pick-up on the flyer.

5. SIGN UP SHEET (Day of Drive)

If you choose to collect food donations at a central meeting place, you may want to offer the opportunity for neighbors to sign up for awareness of future serving opportunities. If you do this, be sure that you are prepared to follow up! Refer to last sheet in this packet for a sample.

6. DELIVER FOOD TO CO-OP (Preferably, Same Day as Drive)

Take food to the designated Co-op. Be sure to call ahead to arrange for a delivery time.

PRE-SORT - It is helpful to the Co-op for you to do a rough pre-sort of the food. For example, bag or box together the canned vegetables, the cereals, the pastas, tuna, etc. If you have kids who want to be a part of the process, this would be a great project for them and their friends to help with.





_____ **NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE**
BENEFITING THE _____ COOPERATIVE

Day, Date, Time

_____ Cooperative Ministries is a community and church supported organization that assists local families in need with food, financial assistance, and clothing. They help approximately _____ families each month. Neighbors representing local churches are conducting a food drive to help keep the pantry shelves stocked. Through the generosity of our neighborhood, we hope to help _____ Cooperative Ministries meet every legitimate request and need for food. You can visit their website at _____.

FOOD ITEMS NEEDED

canned tuna & chicken	spaghetti sauce
macaroni & cheese	diapers, esp. larger sizes
boxed potatoes	canned fruit
peanut butter	sugar
cereal	laundry detergent
powdered milk	baby food
cooking oil	fruit juice
pasta & rice	toiletries: soap, shampoo,
toilet paper	deodorant
canned vegetables	

If you prefer to make a financial contribution in addition to or instead of food donations, checks should be mailed to _____ Cooperative Ministry (Address). Donations are tax-deductible.

DONATION INSTRUCTIONS

(sample ideas)

Drop off food donations on (Day, Date, Time)
at _____

OR

Leave food donations in your driveway on
(Day, Date, Time). We'll pick up!

If you have any questions, contact us at

Thank you for your generosity!



Saturday
OCTOBER 16

**DROP DONATIONS
AT CLUBHOUSE
9AM - 12PM**

MORE INFO? SEE FLYER OR CALL _____

FOOD DONATIONS

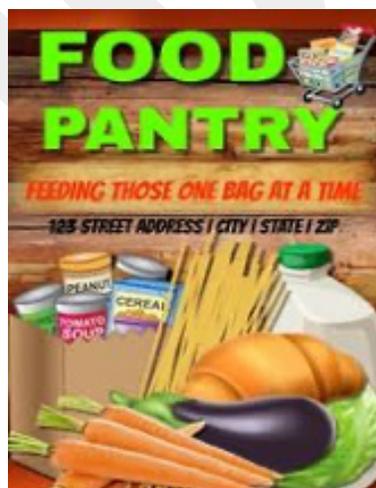
The following food items are the most need items by all co-ops serving Gwinnett, Fulton, and Forsyth Counties. You can drop them off directly at a co-op near you (scroll down to see a full list of co-ops):

- Canned meat (chicken or tuna)
- Pasta sauce (Hunts canned or plastic)
- Chunky soup
- Peanut butter
- Meals in a can (Chef Boyardee)
- Boxed Potatoes
- Jelly (in plastic)
- Cereal
- Mac n cheese
- Canned veggies
- Canned fruit



SOCIAL MEDIA EXAMPLES

1. Neighbors! There are many hungry children in our community who use our help. If you have food to share you can drop them off in the basket on my front porch. All food collected will be delivered to our local food co-op.
2. FOOD NEEDED! Did you know that many children don't get regular meals over the weekend? If you have mac n cheese, cereal, granola bars, or other kid friendly items to share you can drop them on my porch and I will get them to the school counselors.
3. School breaks can be the hungriest times for children who normally get their main meals at school. If you want to help, drop nonperishable food items on my porch and I will deliver them to our local food co-ops.



LIST OF LOCAL COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES

Duluth Hands of Christ Cooperative

3395 Fox Street, Duluth GA 30096

770-232-7454

www.duluthco-op.org

Neighborhood Cooperative Ministries (formerly Norcross Cooperative Cooperative)

500 Pinnacle Court

Norcross, GA 30071

770-263-0013

www.ourncm.org

North Fulton Community Charities (NFCC)

11270 Elkins Road, Roswell, GA 30076

770-640-0399

www.nfcchelp.org

North Gwinnett Cooperative Ministry

4395 Commerce Drive, Buford, GA 30518

770-271-9793

www.northgwinnettcoop.org

Meals By Grace

3540 Keith Bridge Road, Cumming, GA 30041

404-426-4055

www.mealsbygrace.org

MORE INFORMATION

Have questions? Learn more at: www.perimeter.org/communityoutreach

