

A guide for kids to help end hunger in Cheshire

We hear over and over how kids in town want to help end hunger. We want to make sure you have the tools and ideas to be successful at any project you take one. We put together this toolkit to do just that! These ideas come from drives that other children in town have completed. You can use any of these options, or create your own! We hope that you will work with us on these projects so we can add ideas to our website & make this the best project ever!



Before you get started, here are a few things to consider:

What is your goal?

- Collect food or other specific items
- Raise money
- Increase awareness

Who can help you?

- Family
- Friends
- Teachers
- Clubs or teams
- Faith communities
- Neighbors and nearby businesses

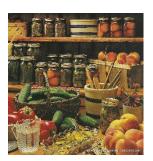
1. What's the plan?

Planning ahead is the best way to make sure your project runs smoothly. That means you have to think about the tools and the people you'll need to get the job done

Always ask permission first. Whether you are running an activity at home or at school make sure your talk with your parents, teachers or leaders. Make a list -Write down all of the tasks \checkmark that need to happen. Make sure to include supplies & the costs of those supplies. You want to make sure the donations will be more than your costs. Will you need volunteers? How about transportation? ✓ Food Safety - If you are collecting food where will you store it? How will you deliver it? Always store food in a safe, dry, secure space. Set a goal - How much food do you want to collect? How much money do you want to raise? A goal will help you measure success. Say thank you! - When you are done make sure to thank everyone who helped you along the way.

2. Take Action

 a. Here are some great ideas to get started
you can make whatever you do a big success by putting your own special spin on it.



Proven Success!

Ask people to donate food instead giving gifts for your birthday or other special occasion - they really add up!

Hold a food drive

Make it a competition with another class or club and see who can collect the most food. Each team can bring in a different healthy food like canned beans or cereal. Offer a prize for the winner like a pizza party or ice cream social.

Drive Ideas:

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- Target an item of your choice, age group or call the pantry for what we currently need! Here are some ideas:
 - o Kids snacks, drinks, or favorites
 - Band-Aids fun & wacky ones for kids or adults to use!
 - Paper goods Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Napkins
 - Gather items for our back to school drive or birthday program
 - Plant a garden in your yard and donate the harvest to the pantry

3. Spread the word!

To meet your goals you have to get the word out! Here are a few ideas:

Social Media

Invite others to participate on Facebook, twitter, or Instagram. Tell them to share your post or event with their friends and families

Posters or Flyers

Post information about your upcoming activities on bulletin boards at school, coffee shops, and your place of worship

Make it news

Ask your school newsletter or local paper to cover your event. Editors can post it on their calendars or write a special story highlighting the work that you are doing to help end hunger.

Proven Success!

Hold a marathon: Running, Jumping rope, or Reading. Participants can ask family & friends for pledges to support the Food Pantry

Volunteer

There are many opportunities to end hunger in Cheshire. To volunteer at the Food Pantry you must be 18 years or older however you can take a tour of the pantry at any age, request a speaker to come to your school or community group, or run a food drive with your friends!



Host a fundraiser

Come up with an idea for an event or activity, then get friends and family to participate. Their admission: A donation to the Cheshire Community Food Pantry! Here are some ideas:

- Request Food & Monetary Donations in lieu of Birthday or holiday gifts.
- Hold a fundraiser through baking, lemonade, or car wash
- Host a tag sale and donate proceeds to the pantry



Proven Success!

Run a lemonade stand or bake sale with the proceeds going to the food pantry. Or organize a dance or dress down day where participate donate to the food pantry

Success Stories

Carter held a lemonade stand outside of his house. He marketed the stand on social media and donated the proceeds to the Cheshire Community Food Pantry, Inc.

Each year Saint Bridget's School holds "Stuff-a-Bus." The Student council collects food during the month of September and on the final day of the drive a few students ride the bus to the pantry to offload. Last year they donated 2,300 pounds of food!

Lucas raised enough money to purchase 20 turkeys for families in need at Thanksgiving. In addition he received a \$100 donation for the food pantry!



We have a number of tools available to help you on your project

- o Needed Items Lists
- o Donation Bins
- o Signage
- o Letters of request

On our website you can find

- o List of most needed food items
- Facts & figures about the food pantry and hunger in Cheshire
- o Ways for people to donate

Contact us!

If you have questions or ideas you want to share please contact:

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Don't forget to like us on Facebook - Cheshire Community Food Pantry

Visit us online at www.cheshirefoodpantry.org



