

# HOW TO RUN A FOOD & FUND DRIVE

Building Health and Belonging Through Food, Education & Advocacy.



CONNECT  
WITH US:

Cambridgefoodbank.org  
or find us: @cambfoodbank



## Step One: Organize!

Consider putting a group together who can help and support you. Maybe it's your co-workers, neighbours, family, classmates or friends. Neighbourhoods, schools, offices, teams, civic groups, and communities of worship are just some of the many organizations we work with to run food drives. This is a great opportunity to involve your community!

Anyone can run a food & fund drive, at any time of year, and no amount is too small!

Choose the location and duration of your food drive. Food drives can last a few days to a few weeks, so make sure you set a start and end date, or if this is a one day event, a start and end time.

Make sure that you will be able to store your collected food somewhere until you are able to deliver it or arrange for a pick-up. To donate fresh food please organize drop off right away, or plan to make multiple deliveries to make sure that food arrives fresh. \*We are closed on weekends.

## Step Two: Let us know!

Don't forget to let us know that you are running a Food and Fund Drive! This will allow us to support your drive with flyers, posters, and arrange a pick-up for large donations. It will also allow us to acknowledge your support and inspire others to do the same!



**Let us know about your drive or ask questions!**

Contact us at 519-622-6550 ext. 102  
or [aslack@cambridgefoodbank.org](mailto:aslack@cambridgefoodbank.org)



## Step Three: Get Creative

Think about what kind of Food and Fund Drive you want to hold! Is it a friendly competition between departments at your business? Is it collecting one specific item from our most needed list? Successful drives often have a theme that makes them unique. Maybe you're a runner, and you plan to run ten miles for hunger. Ask your "crowd" to sponsor you by the mile, and feed thousands of people with just one run. Challenges are only limited by your imagination! Getting food donated is important, but monetary donations also make a big impact, as they allow us to do things like buy food in bulk.

## Step Four: Marketing

Make sure you tell everyone you know about your food and fund drive! Make flyers and hand them out. Create posters and social media messages to share with your friends!

\* Please connect with us before using our name or logo so we can provide you with accurate content or you can [click here](#) to download some customizable graphics.

We can help you with customizing your marketing needs. Contact us at [info@cambridgefoodbank.on.ca](mailto:info@cambridgefoodbank.on.ca) to get help with marketing your Food and Fund Drive.

## Step Five: Make Your Donation!

Drop off your donation at 54 Ainslie St. South, or call us to arrange for a pick-up for larger donations: 519-622-6550 x102. Lastly, send us your pictures! We love to post about our donors and community supporters. If you are on social media, be sure to tag us @camfoodbank and use our hashtag #FeedingCommunity



Donate



Thank you so much for  
you interest in  
supporting The  
Cambridge Food Bank.  
By donating and working  
with us, you are helping  
to build health and  
belonging in Cambridge  
& North Dumfries.







# FOOD DRIVE IMPACT AND CONSIDERATIONS



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## How are you helping the community?

Running a food drive is an excellent way to give back to your community and help those in need.

Here are some reasons why running a food drive is important:

1. **Combat Hunger:** Hunger is a serious problem in Cambridge, North Dumfries, and running a food drive is a great way to combat it. Your food donations can help to provide meals for families who are struggling to put food on the table.
2. **Support Local Organizations:** The Cambridge Food Bank shares food with our participants and local organizations to help support those in need. By running a food drive, you are helping these organizations to provide essential services to the community.
3. **Raise Awareness:** Food drives can also help to raise awareness about hunger and poverty in your community. By spreading the word about your food drive and encouraging others to get involved, you are helping to start a conversation and create positive change.
4. **Foster Community Spirit:** Running a food drive can bring people together and foster a sense of community spirit. It's a great way to meet new people and make a difference in the lives of those around you.

Running a food drive is a simple and effective way to help your community. So, start planning your food drive today and make a positive impact on the lives of those around you!

## How many families are food insecure?

The Cambridge Food Bank witnessed a significant surge in demand for its services from 2022 to 2024. By the end of 2024, the food bank had over 23,000 visits as compared to 13,000 visits in 2022, indicating a 76% increase in demand.

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## Which Items are most needed?

- Breakfast Foods: Cereal Hot/Cold, Pancake Mix
- Sandwich Spreads
- Canned Meat and Fish
- Canned Fruit
- School Snacks
- Grains: Rice, Dry pasta, Gluten Free Options

## What should you consider when running a food drive?

When running a food drive, there are several important factors to consider to ensure its success.

1. Set a goal: Determine how much food you want to collect and set a realistic goal. Consider factors such as the duration of the food drive and the size of your target audience.
2. Plan your promotion: Spread the word about your food drive through social media, flyers, posters, and other channels. Communicate the need for donations and the specifics of the event, including the dates, times, and location for drop-off.
3. Identify drop-off points: Determine where people can drop off their donations, such as schools, community centers, or workplaces. Make sure the locations are easily accessible and visible.
4. Communicate guidelines: Provide guidelines for what types of food items are acceptable and the expiration dates of donations.
5. Coordinate volunteers: Recruit volunteers to help with collecting, sorting, and transporting donations. Ensure they are briefed on the guidelines and procedures for handling the food items.
6. Express gratitude: Thank donors for their generosity and acknowledge their contributions through social media or other channels. Let them know how their donations will help the community.

By considering these factors, you can ensure a successful food drive that meets the needs of the community and provides an opportunity for people to give back.



Thank you so much for  
you interest in supporting  
The Cambridge Food  
Bank. By donating and  
working with us, you are  
helping to build health  
and belonging in  
Cambridge & North  
Dumfries.



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