



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

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. Distribute Flyers (1-2 weeks prior to drive)
2. Put Yard Signs in neighborhood (1 week before drive)
3. Collect Food Donations (day of the drive)
4. Deliver Food Donations to local co-op (day of the drive)
5. Schedule a delivery with the co-op, prior to delivery

DETAILED OVERVIEW

1) DISTRIBUTE FLYERS (1-2 Weeks Prior to Drive)

A sample flyer is included in this packet. Feel free to edit it as needed. You should include your designated food pick-up date / time. Also include a contact name and phone number so people can call with questions or to volunteer to help.

You will need to make as many copies of the flyer as you have homes in your neighborhood, street, or where ever you plan to have your drive.

a) FLYER DISTRIBUTION: Assign streets or sections of your neighborhood to members of your group of volunteers. Approximately 7-10 days ahead of the collection, distribute the bags with the flyer / food list attached throughout the neighborhood, placing them on front porches, tucking them into the front door or other visible place. Be respectful of your neighbors -- don't tape the flyers to their doors. (Mailboxes should not be used either—it is against federal law!) If the goal of your food drive is to meet your neighbors then it would be fantastic if you were able to knock on doors and make personal contact with them. If you have a neighborhood email list and it is permissible to use it, send out a notice that way as well. People are sometimes more attentive to emails than to flyers. Don't forget to also share and remind people via social media!

b) GROCERY BAGS:

- Option A Have contributors use their own grocery bags
Option B Provide a grocery bag to contributor (from local grocery store)



If you select option B, read the following suggestions.

If you choose to use grocery bags, ask for donations of paper grocery bags from local grocery stores. At the service counter, ask for a customer service manager or store manager. Explain that the bags will be used for a food drive conducted by your church members to benefit local Co-op food pantries. It is always helpful to identify yourself and what church you're representing. A Donations request letter is available for your benefit from Community Outreach Perimeter Church at 678-405-2252.

Be sensitive to the fact that these bags are somewhat costly to the stores. They may not wish to give a large quantity at one time. If you need a lot, try to get bags from several different stores. Be sure to thank the store manager!

2. 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.

3. 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.



4. 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.

5. 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 3

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

MORE INFO? SEE FLYER OR CALL _____

Please make me aware of future neighborhood service projects or additional opportunities to build community in our neighborhood.

[illegible]

LIST OF LOCAL COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES

Duluth Hands of Christ Cooperative

3395 Fox Street, Duluth GA 30096

Mary Roberts 770-232-7454

www.duluthco-op.org

Norcross Cooperative Ministry

2275 Mitchell Road, Norcross, GA 30071

Shirley Cabe 770-263-0013

www.norcrossco-op.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

432-A Canton Road, Cumming, GA 30040

www.mealsbygrace.org

MORE INFORMATION

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

