



Perimeter
CHURCH

FOOD DRIVE

Starter Kit

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 county 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, Community 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), and 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 instructions 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*
- *Via social media*
- *Through the Nextdoor App*

Many grocery stores have weekly items that are BOGO (Buy One, Get One free/half off). Why not give one away? Ask your friends give you coupons or offers they don't need.

Overview

Together we can impact our community in a big way by encouraging our neighborhoods to provide food for families in need. Make it easy for them by picking up the food from their driveway or holding a “drop-off get-together” at a central place like the neighborhood playground or pool. A head start of one to two weeks is advisable.

REASONS TO HOLD A FOOD DRIVE

- *A small effort can produce a large result. There is always a need for food in local co-ops!*
- *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 simple and easy to do and not overwhelming for any one person. It requires a limited time commitment and is flexible with your schedule.*
- *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 one's 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.*
- *It's fun to do!*

WHAT ARE COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES?

Local cooperative ministries (co-ops) are Christian organizations providing food, clothing, financial assistance for rent and utilities, employment assistance, and prayer support for local families in need. Thousands of people are helped each year in our communities. These co-ops are supported by area churches, individuals, and a few corporate and foundation donors. Local co-ops are primarily staffed by volunteers, and they welcome new volunteers!

How To Hold A Neighborhood Food Drive, Step-By-Step



1-3 WEEKS
PRIOR

1. SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media can be a powerful engagement tool. Once you've chosen your selected Drive date, post on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [TikTok](#), and the [Nextdoor App](#). Some samples are in this packet but feel free to get creative. Use photos as well as words (post captions) to tell the community about your drive. Don't be afraid to ask others to share your posts. The more it's shared, the better your results will be.

Be sure to list the critical food needs on your post as well. They are also included in this packet.



1-2 WEEKS
PRIOR

2. PUT FLYERS IN YOUR COMMUNITY BULLETIN OR ON MAILBOXES (OPTIONAL)

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. Typically, people may pay more attention to social media and emails than flyers. [Download flyer templates here.](#)



1 WEEK
PRIOR

3. PUT YARD SIGNS IN NEIGHBORHOOD

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. [You can pick these signs up from the Community Outreach office.](#)



DAY-OF
DRIVE

4. COLLECT FOOD DONATIONS

There are a couple of options for collecting food donations.

- ***If you want to meet your neighbors***, arrange a central drop off location in your neighborhood (e.g. 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. 9 am – noon, or 5 pm - 7 pm).
- ***If you want to collect the maximum amount of food possible***: Arrange a drive through the neighborhood and pick up the grocery donations left for you at driveways, mailboxes, and/or on porches. Be sure to leave (or mail) a thank you note for 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 the local cooperative ministry.



DAY-OF
DRIVE

5. FILL OUT THE SIGN UP SHEET

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 the last sheet in this packet for a sample.



IDEALLY,
DAY-OF
DRIVE

6. DELIVER FOOD TO A CO-OP

Take food to the designated co-op. Be sure to call ahead to arrange for a delivery time. Pre-sorting the food into rough categories is helpful to the co-op! 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.

Sample Flyer

Neighborhood FOOD DRIVE

Benefiting the
[Cooperative Ministry Name Here]

[Day, Date, Time]

[Cooperative Ministry Name Here] 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 co-op pantry shelves stocked during these challenging financial times.

Through the generosity of our neighborhood, we hope to help [Cooperative Ministry Name Here] meet every legitimate request and need for food. Visit their website at [Cooperative Ministry Website Here].

ITEMS NEEDED

- Canned Meat
- Peanut Butter & Jelly (Plastic Jars)
- Canned Soup with Meat
- Canned Vegetables
- Pasta Sauce (Plastic Jars)
- Canned Fruit
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Diapers
- Bars of Soap
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant

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

HOW TO DONATE

Drop off donations on
[Day, Date, Time]
at [Location]

OR

Leave food donations in your
driveway on [Day, Date, Time]
and we'll pick them up!

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact [Name] at [Phone/Email].

Thank you for your generosity!

Sample Yard Sign



[You can pick signs up from the Community Outreach office.](#)

Sample Sign Up Sheet

Neighborhood FOOD DRIVE

BUILDING COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

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

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL

Sample Social Media Posts

POST CAPTION SAMPLE 1:

Hi friends! There is an urgent need for food in our local co-ops! Their shelves are consistently bare, due to rising grocery prices and certain funding ending. The good news is, together, we can help!

We're having a food drive on **[Day]**, benefiting **[Cooperative Ministry Name here]**. To donate, simply **[insert specific instructions here]**. The most-needed items are: canned meat, peanut butter & jelly (plastic jars), canned soup with meat, canned vegetables, pasta sauce (plastic jars), canned fruit, paper towels, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, diapers, bars of soap, toothpaste, and deodorant.

If you have questions, reach out to **[Contact Name]** (or leave a comment below). Thank you for your generosity!

POST CAPTION SAMPLE 2:

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 food items to share, you can drop them on my porch and I will get them to local food co-ops who serve our neighbors in need.

POST CAPTION SAMPLE 3:

Did you know? School breaks can be the hungriest times for children who normally get their main meals at school. If you want to help, drop non-perishable food items on my porch and I will deliver them to our local food co-ops. Thank you for your generosity!

POST CAPTION SAMPLE 4:

I am reaching out today with a heartfelt request. In our community, there are many families who experience food insecurity and could use our help. If you have any extra food items to share, please consider dropping them off in the basket located on my front porch. All the collected food will be delivered directly to our local food co-op. By doing this, we can ensure that these children and families are provided with the essentials they need.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support. It's acts of kindness like this that truly make our community special.

Sample Social Media Graphics

To access these Canva templates, visit perimeter.org/FoodDriveSocial. (A free Canva account is required.)



Sample Carousel Post (2 images)



Sample Carousel Post (2 images)

Sample Carousel Post (2 images)

How to Deliver Your Donations

Deliver your food donations to a co-op in your area. Be sure to call for drop off hours.

THE BLOCK

4600 Nelson Brogden Blvd., Suite B
Sugar Hill, GA 30518
470.573.6109

DULUTH HANDS OF CHRIST

3395 Fox Street
Duluth, GA 30096
770.623.9563

NEIGHBORHOOD COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES

500 Pinnacle Court
Norcross, GA 30071
770.263.0013

NETWORKS COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

4296 Cowan Rd
Tucker, GA 30084
770.939.6454

NORTH FULTON COMMUNITY CHARITIES

11275 Elkins Road
Roswell, GA 30076
770.640.0399

NORTH GWINNETT CO-OP

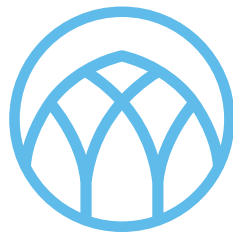
4395 Commerce Drive
Buford, GA 30518
770.271.9793

THE PLACE OF FORSYTH

2550 The Place Circle
Cumming, GA 30040
770.887.1098

Have Questions?

Visit perimeter.org/CommunityOutreach or email us: communityoutreach@perimeter.org.



Perimeter

CHURCH

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