



# Hosting a Food Drive

Here's all you need to know to make it great.

## Why a food drive?

A food drive is a unique opportunity to see people as people - not statistics. It is an opportunity to look beyond a number and see the hurt of our brothers and sisters. It's easier to see brotherhood and develop a humility knowing you could be there yourself. Our food services program is a corporal work of mercy: we feed the hungry and to give drink to the thirsty. Our commitment is to uphold the dignity of every human person and provide assistance to families in need.



## How it works

1. CCD delivers branded food cart to parish.
2. Parishioners fill cart with food donations.
3. Parish contacts CCD to schedule a pick-up when food cart is full.
4. CCD delivers the donations to the North Texas Food Bank, where we are able to order food at a 2lbs for 1 rate to help us deliver over 7 million pounds of food a year!

For an ongoing food drive repeat steps 1-3!



## Tips for a successful food drive

Here are some suggestions that will help you with your food drive:

- **Location is key** - Wherever you decide to hold your drive, make sure it's a place where a lot of people in your parish or organization are available to contribute.
- **Advertise** - Have a kick off start date and make sure you advertise your drive. Mention the drive in your upcoming newsletter, email, or bulletin. Send email reminders to participants the day the food drive begins and follow up with a progress report halfway through the drive.
- **Make it fun** - Consider making your drive a competition to encourage donations! Develop games, challenges, and set goals. Use social media to post all the interactive aspects of your drive. Tag Catholic Charities in your posts! Be creative and have fun!

If you need assistance or more information, contact **Edwin Chinchilla** at [echinchilla@ccdallas.org](mailto:echinchilla@ccdallas.org) or **972.246.6027**

**Suggested items to donate:** Cereal, peanut butter, canned goods, canned tuna, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, dried beans, canned beans. We need non-perishable food items that are not larger than 16oz.

CCD has four (soon to be 5!) mobile food trucks that host over 100 food distributions each month. In Dallas, 1 in every 5 people worry about where their next meal will come from. In 2021, CCD provided over 6,373,130 meals to families in need.