



Unbeknownst to many of us living here in Hamilton County, many of our neighbors are wondering where their next meal will be coming from. Feeding America, from their 2014 Map the Meal Gap Study, estimates there are more than 28,000 food insecure individuals in Hamilton County. Being food insecure means you don't have enough food now or uncertain access to enough food. This forces some very tough decisions, such as "Do I buy food for my children or do I pay my rent and utility bill?"

Food insecurity includes 9.8% of our county's total population, and 14.3% of children. Only 54% are likely eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP benefits. This increases the reliance on local groups to help.

The flip side of this stark story lies with our local food pantries. Every week over 30 + food pantries in the county open their doors. Families are not judged, but met with a friendly face, a God Bless, and needed food. Some pantries serve about 20 families a week, some well over 200. If each family receives only 20+ items each week, this adds up to 400 – 4000 items each week that each pantry must stock. Making sure those shelves are not empty is a huge burden for the pantries to bear alone.

Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank, Inc. (HCH) was established in 2009 when several of the food pantries in the county joined together and set up a new non-profit entity to assist all Hamilton County food pantries to fulfill the pantries' food needs. We try to make sure that the food pantries can first concentrate on their most important mission, their clients.

Since our inception, we have collected and distributed over 275,000 lbs. of food for local pantries; this past year alone has seen a 53% increase in the amount of food required. A majority of our food will come through the school holiday drives, but more and more Hamilton County businesses and organizations are now helping out. All donated food will be sorted and distributed to more than twenty-two local pantries at no cost to them. Many of the same volunteers who work in their local pantries will graciously donate their time to serve as food bank volunteers (HCH is manned 100% by volunteers).

We thank you so much for your interest in helping our community's less fortunate by organizing a food drive. Hopefully the following pages can answer your questions and provide the necessary items to make this as simple and beneficial as possible.

We strongly believe that by fully working together we can most efficiently help those who are less fortunate within our community.



www.HCHFoodBank.org

Details of how Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank can help you with your food drive

Contact information:

hamiltoncountyharvest@gmail.com

What we can provide for you to collect food in:

We welcome you to use your own collection item(s) that will ideally fit your food drive, but please also know we can provide collection barrels if you would desire.

Barrels – 2 sizes, 18” dia. by 28” tall or 22” dia. by 33” tall (preferred). These barrels all have our organization information clearly marked on them.



We will gladly provide drop off of the barrels and pickup of the filled barrels. See above contact information to make arrangements.

If you would like to pick up barrels and/or drop off the food yourself the food bank is open every Tuesday from 10-11 am or Thursday from 4-6 pm at our 1605 N. 10th St. Noblesville location. Just ask for Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank volunteers to assist you.

If you would like to put your own organization’s insignia and dates for the food drive you can easily attach a temporary flier to the barrels for your use.

Needed Food Items

All non-perishable items are welcome for the food bank. These are some items that are always in need:

Peanut Butter, Canned Meats, Meals in a Can, Canned Fruit, Cereal, Mac and Cheese

Publicity for your food drive

On the next page we have included a flier you can use to print out and advertise your food drive within your community and organization. Print and use as many as you would like.

To make the food drive as successful as possible, we highly encourage publicity within your organization. We provide highlights of your food drive on our own Facebook page, Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank. If you have a specific item you want listed on the Facebook page, please send to audrashock@gmail.com

HCH HAMILTON COUNTY HARVEST FOOD BANK, Inc.

Working Together to Support Hamilton County Food Pantries

Food Drive Collection Dates:
____ / ____ / ____ to ____ / ____ / ____

I was hungry and you fed me...Matthew 25:35

1605 N. 10th Street
Noblesville, IN 46060
Open Hours - Thursday 4-6 pm
HCH info: www.HCHFoodBank.org



**How to make a cash donation to
Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank, Inc.**

Monetary contributions are much appreciated too as this is used to help supplement our food inventory, particularly in the summer and early fall when our food supplies run critically low. The food bank is a full 501c3 organization allowing all donations to be fully tax deductible.

**Make checks payable to:
Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank, Inc.
P.O. Box 881
Noblesville, IN 46060**

We gladly also accept online donations. Please use the attached code to help process.



