

IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED

Recommended by previous coordinators and teams

Create a **Food Bank BINGO** and offer prizes. "Quick Win" prizes throughout the day. Example: "The first person to bring me a can of corn wins _____."

Bring in 3 cans and submit your name in a drawing for a gift card.

Breakfast Challenge:
Challenge another department to a food collection. The losing team buys bagels or donuts for the winning team.

Food assigned each day:
Macaroni Monday, Tuna Tuesday, Welch's Juice Wednesday, Tortilla Thursday, Fruit (Canned) Friday.

100% participation in your office = casual dress day

Daily Reminders
Send a reminder email each day using facts from the Food Bank's handout in your coordinator packet.

Cans for a Car Wash
Teams compete to have their vehicles cleaned by members of executive team/management.

Set a "Meal Goal":
For every \$1 donated, the Food Bank can provide 3 meals. Set a meal goal for your office and collect funds.

IDEA

MORE IDEAS TO KEEP YOUR CO-WORKERS MOTIVATED

- One company stapled food drive information and needed food items on a grocery bag that was distributed to employees. Also offered a casual day if the poundage goal was met.
- The company collected small “prizes” including a day of vacation, lotto tickets and other small gifts to raffle off. The vacation day was a big hit!
- Free pizza party was offered to the entire company/department if the poundage goal was met. Totals were weighed and tracked daily to show “real-time” progress.
- On the last day of the food drive one company had a Luau-themed party with everyone wearing Hawaiian/ beach attire. Also, Hawaiian food was served.
- Top performer incentives: gifts awarded to the top two or three staff members who collected the most food.
- One company used “summer” as their theme and hosted a three-part event.
 - Part 1: Gear Up for Summer. – Drive announcement/kickoff, including details;
 - Part 2: It’s Getting Hot! – Up the ante with various promos (“Red hot red” – any donation with a red label earned “bonus” points; Garden-like Goods – canned fruits and veggies double your points; “Swim SOUP” Party – employees were all encouraged to bring in canned soups)
 - Part 3: Cool Down! – To celebrate the employee participation, the company/department hosted an ice cream sundae bar for any participating employee and winners of the challenges were announced.
- Stats from the Food Bank’s “Year in Review” handout and website were shared before each meeting. If a person had already heard that particular stat that day/week, the meeting organizer had to pay a “fine” of food or funds.
- Employee cookouts are very popular events! Encourage managers to donate the meat and other employees can bring a side dish. Each person who attends pays a small fee for dining or can make a free-will donation.
- Adopt a food, ex: cereal - everyone brings in at least one box of cereal
- “Most Needed Items” Iron Chef Challenge – using the items listed as the “most needed” by the Food Bank, teams have to create and serve their prepared dish to a panel of judges. You can either have people pay to play or have other coworkers vote by purchasing a ballot so they can cast their vote.
- How about a Scavenger Hunt? Riddles? Contests? For either bonus pounds or for the Food drive itself.
- Take pictures of people putting food in bins. Post them in your department with a reminder to bring food.
- Build a canned castle, a cereal maze, etc. from food collected by employees.
- A tisket, a tasket. Everyone brings a food item to work and drops it off at the door of a co-worker with a note, “this is my food drive donation in honor of you”. The worker puts the donation in the bin and posts the note on the bulletin board. See how filled up the board gets.
- Guess What’s in the Food Box Contest – a box of groceries is placed in a convenient location. Folks are able to guess what’s in the box. Whoever guesses the most items wins. Give a goofy trinket for a prize like a kazoo or party store item.
- Have an ethnic day. Italian day. Asian day. Everyone brings food common to that culture.

To promote a healthy diet, whenever possible we encourage donations of foods that are reduced in sodium, sugar or fat and contain no trans fatty acids. Thank you!

