



UNITED  
COMMUNITY  
MINISTRIES

*At the Heart of Community*

# Host a Food Drive for UCM!

Your food donation is important to UCM.

Whether you are an individual donating a bag or two of food or you are coordinating a large food drive for UCM, please know that your donation is needed and will help a family right here in our community. Much of the food we distribute is donated to us. Your donation helps us keep our food budget low, at the same time providing families with a wide variety of foods.

## Food Drive Ideas

Be creative when planning your food drive. Themed food drives are very successful, and you can select a theme that works with your company, church or neighborhood. You can even have a food drive for your favorite food. Or try raising the equivalent of your weight in donated food. Or try giving out paper bags and asking friends to fill them with food. For an event at your school or a party at your home, have the 'admission' be a food donation.

## How to Coordinate a Food Drive

Holding a food drive is easy! And the donations of small amounts of food by many individuals can really add up! Here are a few simple steps.

**1) Organizing your food drive.** Be sure to discuss your plans with the head of your organization. Plan the date(s) of your drive and decide on a theme. For example, cereal drives are an easy way to collect food for the most important meal of the day.

**2) Publicizing your food drive.** Put up a food drive flyer in strategic locations. Get the word out through newsletters, emails and voicemails. Be sure to let people know the theme of your drive. We can give you materials about UCM to distribute too.

**3) The food drive.** Provide collection boxes for the food. Keep reminding people to bring in food. And don't forget to bring food yourself!

**4) After the drive.** Deliver the food to UCM, and let us know that you'll be coming. Thank key volunteers who helped with the drive. Let everyone know about the success of your drive. Send us photos of your drive so we can post them on our website.

For more information on hosting a **Food Drive**, contact Marcos Castillo, Volunteer and Community Relations Coordinator at 571.255.8979 or [marcos.castillo@ucmagency.org](mailto:marcos.castillo@ucmagency.org).

**UCM**

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