

# DOING GOOD, FEELING GOOD

Studies show that employees who feel connected to their community are healthier, happier, and more productive. Employees who feel more engaged with their community – while at work – can help boost working relationships, job satisfaction, and the company's bottom line.

Hunger hurts! And, hunger in Passaic County is a critical concern that needs to be addressed. You can help us help others.

A TOOLKIT FOR A CORPORATE SPONSORED FOOD DRIVE



United Way of Passaic County

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## **Hunger Facts**

- In Passaic County there has been a 13% increase in the number of people receiving assistance from food pantries totaling over 127,000 people.
- Passaic County Food Pantries have seen a 33% in referrals and a 26% increase in the number of individuals.
- A food package, depending on family size, usually provides enough food for 3 meals a day, for 3 days.
- 35% of residents in Passaic County say "it is harder to get enough food now" than it was a year ago.
- Passaic County has over 70 food pantries.
- Persons using food pantries averaged 18 visits a year, a 50% increase since 1998.
- There has been an 18% increase in the number of children seeking assistance from food pantries.
- Summer months are the hardest on children from low income families. Many children receive free or reduced rate breakfast and lunch through their local elementary school. During the summer months these meals are not available when school is closed.
- Over 80% of the student population in Paterson qualifies for free or reduced-price lunch programs.
- Food pantries in Passaic County have reported that food donations are at an all time low, shelves are barren and requests for assistance can not be met.

Thank you for considering this rewarding opportunity to contribute to the fight against poverty in Passaic County! Have questions? Email Mary Celis: maryc@unitedwaypassaic.org.

## **Get Involved**

Conducting a Corporate Sponsored Food Drive is simple. Follow these easy steps....

- 1. Contact the United Way of Passaic County and tell us you're intersted in hosting a food drive and schedule a tour of the CUMAC food pantry. Contact Mary Celis to coordinate drive logistics: maryc@unitedwaypassaic.org or 973.279.8900 x203
- 2. Determine a food drive timeline and designate a two-week period for food collection
- 3. Designate a contact person within the company and have them available to answer questions
- 4. One month prior to your food drive, start advertising
  - Send notices out via email, with paychecks, and put an article in your company sponsored newsletter
  - Have posters made and posted in each department and common areas (cafeteria, restrooms, lounges, etc) with food drive collection dates, where the drop-off bins and collection points will be with CUMAC as the benefactor
  - Make copies of the shopping list and distribute it to employees
- 5. Send a final reminder notice: email works great to announce the last day for food collection and promote the tour of CUMAC





301 Main Street | Center City Mall, Upper Level | Paterson, NJ 07505 973.279.8900 | Fax: 973.279.0059 | www.unitedwaypassaic.org

## **DOING GOOD, FEELING GOOD**

## **Most-Needed Items List**

## CLIP & TAKE THIS LIST WITH YOU TO YOUR LOCAL SUPERMARKET

### MEALS

- Cereal (Hot & Cold)
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Taco Dinner Boxes
- Canned Meals (Spaghetti, Chili, Hash, Stew, Etc.)
- Canned Meats (Tuna, Spam, Chicken, Etc.)
- Soup (Canned & Dry)

#### **GRAINS, PASTA, & SIDES**

- Dry Beans
- Rice
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned, Fresh, & Frozen Fruit
- Canned, Fresh, & Frozen Vegetables

#### **BEVERAGES & BABIES**

• Powdered, Canned, &

#### **Evaporated Milk**

- Baby Food & Formula
- Protein Supplement Drinks (Ensure)

#### **SNACKS**

- Crackers
- Raisins & Other Dried Fruit
- Granola Bars





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