THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN COORDINATING A FOOD AND/OR FUND DRIVE TO HELP ALLEVIATE HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY. HERE ARE SOME HELPFUL HINTS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR CONTRIBUTION:

PREPARATION

- Decide what type of drive you want to host - are you collecting food, funds, or both?
- Decide on a drive length and goal.
- Decide on a collection method:
  - Boxes are perfect for any food drive that generates 300 lbs. of food or less. KLF can provide large boxes and posters for decoration.
  - Large fiber barrels hold up to 150 lbs. of food each (apx. a grocery cart amount), and larger metal crates are available for more sizable food drives.
- Inform KLF of the food drive so that we can provide collection receptacles. We also supply promotional materials that offer further information about our cause and promote your efforts on social media. Contact Procurement & Logistics Coordinator Dave Hafer at 269.488.2617 or at DaveH@kzoolf.org for more information.
- Send out social media posts, text messages, emails, and office memos to promote your drive. Include the drive in a newsletter article or monthly publication, and encourage participants to visit kzoolf.org to learn more about hunger in our community.

DURING THE DRIVE

- Monitor the amount of food and funds donated so you can keep participants up-to-date on the drive’s progress. Let us know if we need to pick up a full barrel or crate, or drop off additional collection receptacles. Tag KLF on social media so we can see your progress!
- Send creative messaging to keep people excited about reaching your target goal.

WHEN IT’S OVER

- If your drive amasses more than 300 lbs., we can pick up the donation. If not, please deliver your collection to our administrative office located at 901 Portage Street in Kalamazoo from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Celebrate! We will inform you of the amount of food and funds you collected so you can share it with everyone who participated.
A LITTLE ABOUT KALAMAZOO LOAVES & FISHES

KLF MISSION
KALAMAZOO LOAVES & FISHES WILL FEED HUNGRY PEOPLE AND ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITY IN THE FIGHT TO END HUNGER.

DURING OUR 2017/18 FISCAL YEAR

- KLF PROVIDED FOOD ASSISTANCE TO AN AVERAGE OF 700 INDIVIDUALS PER SERVICE DAY.
- KLF DISTRIBUTED MORE THAN 3 MILLION POUNDS OF FOOD TO HUNGRY RESIDENTS OF KALAMAZOO COUNTY.
- KLF SERVED 165,425 FOUR-DAY FOOD ORDERS THROUGH ITS GROCERY PANTRY PROGRAM.

FOR 37 YEARS, KLF HAS BEEN THE PRIMARY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROVIDER IN KALAMAZOO COUNTY.

KLF PANTRIES ARE IN...
- AUGUSTA
- COMSTOCK
- GALESBURG
- KALAMAZOO
- PARCHMENT
- PORTAGE
- RICHLAND
- VICKSBURG

FOOD DONATIONS PROVIDE A DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN DONORS AND PEOPLE WHO ARE HUNGRY IN OUR COMMUNITY. DONATIONS FROM OUR COMMUNITY ACCOUNT FOR SOME OF THE HEALTHIEST AND HIGHEST-QUALITY FOOD WE RECEIVE. FRESH PRODUCE AND NUTRIENT-RICH ITEMS ARE SOMETIMES DIFFICULT TO ACQUIRE SO THE ITEMS DONATED BY BUSINESSES, FARMS, INDIVIDUALS, AND COMMUNITY-BASED GROUPS ARE CRITICAL IN OUR EFFORTS TO BUILD AN ACTIVE AND HEALTHY FUTURE FOR KALAMAZOO COUNTY.

CASH DONATIONS ALLOW US TO KEEP OUR PANTRY SHELVES STOCKED, OUR FREEZERS COOL, AND OUR TRUCKS ON THE ROAD FIVE DAYS PER WEEK. THEY ALSO SUPPORT INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS AIMED AT ALLEVIATING LOCAL HUNGER. MOST IMPORTANTLY, MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS ALLOW US TO PURCHASE FOOD AT WHOLESALE PRICES TO PROVIDE VARIETY IN OUR PANTRIES SO INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS HAVE ACCESS TO THE ITEMS THAT WILL KEEP THEM HEALTHY. WE CAN PROVIDE THREE FULL MEALS FOR EVERY DOLLAR DONATED.
WHO IS HUNGRY IN KALAMAZOO COUNTY?

SNAPSHOT

HUNGER AFFECTS OVER 36,000 LOCAL RESIDENTS

OVER 8,000 CHILDREN ARE CHALLENGED BY HUNGER ON A DAILY BASIS.

16% OF AREA FAMILIES WITH A CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 18 LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE.

NEARLY 16% OF SENIORS LIVE IN POVERTY.

FOOD WISH LIST

PROTEINS:
CANNED MEATS, HEARTY SOUPS, NUTS

FRUITS:
FRESH, OR CANNED WITHOUT SUGAR OR CORN SYRUP ADDED

VEGETABLES:
FRESH, OR CANNED WITHOUT ADDED SALT

GRAINS:
PASTA, RICE, OATMEAL, GRANOLA BARS

OTHER:
JELLY/JAM, BUTTER, COOKING OIL, ENSURE®

*KLF ALSO ACCEPTS PERISHABLE ITEMS INCLUDING FRESH PRODUCE.

NOT ACCEPTED

FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR SERVICE RECIPIENTS, KLF DOES NOT ACCEPT:

RUSTY, BADLY-DENTED OR UNLABELED CANS
GLASS CONTAINERS
HOMEMADE ITEMS
NON-COMMERCIAL CANNED OR PACKAGED ITEMS
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR MIXERS
OPEN OR USED ITEMS

EVERY DOLLAR DONATED PROVIDES THREE FULL MEALS