A mad dash to the finish line

Last-minute preparations are underway as coordinators race to the finish line for the 27th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive on Saturday, May 11.

In 2018, we collected 71.6 million pounds of food nationally. Over the course of its 26-year history, the drive has collected 1.67 billion pounds of food, thanks to a Postal Service universal delivery network that spans the entire nation, including Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Countless volunteers make it all possible.

“Photos, video clips and news media items from the food drive should be forwarded to Headquarters as soon as possible at social@nalc.org.”

Postcards should arrive soon if they haven’t already

By the time this issue of The Postal Record appears in your mailbox, all food drive reminder postcards have arrived, or will soon arrive, at post offices, ready for delivery to every address in the country. Branch food drive coordinators are encouraged to connect with fellow employees to ensure that everything is set and ready to go. Local food drive coordinators may contact their regional leaders for help leading up to, and on, Food Drive Day. You can find the list of regional representatives, as well as other resources, in the Food Drive Tool Kit at nalc.org/food and at stampout-hungerfooddrive.us.

To help further spread the word, the Postal Service will again be distributing special Stamp Out Hunger buttons that letter carriers and other postal employees can wear in the days leading up to the drive.

Branch food drive coordinators should return the official results form (found under the “Community Service” section of the website) to National Headquarters as soon as possible, but in all cases no later than June 1 for publication in The Postal Record.

We’d love to hear from you

Photos, video clips and news media items from the food drive should be forwarded to Headquarters as soon as possible at social@nalc.org. While we’d like to get photos, videos and news clips from the day of the drive, we’re also interested in images of coordinators and employees getting ready for the big day.

It will help us out tremendously if you include a message with your photos that tells us your branch name and number and the name of the city where your photos were taken. Also, when possible, please include the name of the people in the photo.

If you are interviewed by local news media in your city—TV, radio or newspaper—or if your local stations or papers run stories about the food drive beforehand or afterward—please send an email to lettercarrierfooddrive@nalc.org or social@nalc.org and let us know the name of the newspaper and the date of the story, or the name of the station and the approximate time the story aired. You can also send links to such stories to the email addresses provided.

Thank you

We never know what tomorrow may bring and we never know if we will be in need, which is why we help others and why our union holds the food drive. Reaching out your hand and giving food is a small gesture but will guarantee someone in need will be provided a meal.

As I said before, visit nalc.org/food for last-minute ideas to help make this year’s food drive as much of a success as last year’s. You’ll also find a number of resources, links to the coordinators’ manual, support documents, graphics, videos and answers to frequently asked questions.

I thank everyone for your hard work and wish all of you a successful drive.