

# Get ready for Food Drive Day and after

**I**t's almost here. The Letter Carriers' "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive—the largest single-day food drive in the country—will take place on Saturday, May 13.

Since the NALC's first national food drive in 1993, active and retired letter carriers, with the help of volunteers from their communities, have collected a total of 1.82 billion pounds of food. They get it from postal patrons who leave bags of food at their doorsteps the second Saturday in May, and they deliver it to local food banks. The food remains in the local community, to serve those in need.

One in 8 Americans, including millions of children, senior citizens and veterans, are unsure where their next meal will come from. The May food drive helps to relieve shortages of food that food pantries experience in spring and summer after holiday donations have been depleted. And when summer arrives, most school meal programs are not available, so the need for food grows.

"Letter carriers see firsthand the needs of their communities," NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said. "It's time to once again meet those needs on May 13 with our food drive, just as we've done for 30 years running."

The annual food drive wouldn't be possible without the support of our national partners: the U.S. Postal Service, the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, Vericast, United Way Worldwide, the AFL-CIO, Valpak, the Kellogg Co. and CVS Health. These partners help through such actions as paying for the specially marked postcards, donating thousands of pounds of food and thousands of dollars to food pantries,

donating bags that letter carriers distribute to customers, gathering volunteers, or getting out the message about the food drive.

The digital communications team at Headquarters is busy spreading news and reminders on social media, including the event's official social media accounts on Facebook at [facebook.com/StampOutHunger](https://facebook.com/StampOutHunger) and on Twitter at [@StampOutHunger](https://twitter.com/StampOutHunger). To find or send messages about the food drive on either platform, use #StampOutHunger.

NALC's Communications Department also promotes news media coverage about the food drive through national press releases and media contacts, while branch food drive coordinators promote the effort on the local level.

This year, the virtual donor drive that branches used to make up for the cancellation of in-person food collection events during the COVID-19 pandemic will continue as a supplement to the traditional food drive. For more information, go to [nalc.org/community-service/food-drive/2022-donor-drive](https://nalc.org/community-service/food-drive/2022-donor-drive).

After the big day, to help us measure our success, branches need to report the pounds of food they collected to NALC Headquarters by June 1. The official results form can be found on the Food Drive Tool Kit page at [nalc.org/food](https://nalc.org/food), in the "For Food Drive Coordinators" section, along with information on sending photos.

Letter carriers who have questions about the food drive should contact their branch or regional food drive coordinator. Food drive coordinators with questions may contact Christina Vela Davidson, assistant to the president for community services, at 202-662-2489 or at [cdaavidson@nalc.org](mailto:cdaavidson@nalc.org). **PR**



**Correction:** In the March issue, Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith was misidentified as a senator from Michigan. She is a senator from Mississippi. We apologize for the error.