



2026 NEWS 2



SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE

September 14, to October 31, 2026



FIFTH THIRD BANK





ABOUT FOOD 2 FAMILIES

Food 2 Families is an annual food drive founded by WKRN News 2 to engage elementary, middle and high school students in Second Harvest's 46-county service area. Schools compete to see who can collect the most non-perishable food items while supporting our neighbors in need.

All food collected will benefit Second Harvest Food Bank and its network of 420+ Partner Agencies. **The food your school collects will stay in your county and is used to make food boxes and fill pantry shelves for families and individuals in need.**

SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

Principals, teachers, PTA volunteers, school clubs, or student organizations can register. Food drive donation boxes are available for pickup at the food bank or for delivery to your school*. When, how, and where you collect your canned food items is up to you. Have students bring food items to your football games, assign the campaign to the school's clubs, create incentives, and make it fun. Once your food drive is over, we will weigh the totals and tell you how much you donated!

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Food Collection: September 14 – October 31, 2026

Donation Pickup/Drop Off Deadline: November 7, 2026

Winners Announced: November 12, 2026

PRIZES

Prizes will be given to the top THREE schools that raise the most items per capita in each category (high school, middle school, and elementary).

- **TOP THREE HIGH SCHOOLS: \$1,000**
- **TOP THREE MIDDLE SCHOOLS: \$500**
- **TOP THREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: \$500**

All prizes are awarded to schools that raise the most items per capita (items raised on average per student).

Every participating school will win the most important prize, which is knowing they made a positive impact on the lives of those in need!!!

Questions? Contact Jack Stell 615-627-1567 or food.drives@secondharvestmidtn.org



MOST NEEDED FOOD DRIVE ITEMS

PEANUT BUTTER ● CANNED CHICKEN/TUNA
CANNED FRUIT & VEGETABLES
CANNED SOUPS, STEWS, CHILI and PASTA
BEANS (canned or dried)
CEREAL (whole grain, low sugar)
PASTA ● PEANUT BUTTER ● RICE



FOOD DRIVE CHECKLIST

1. Register your food drive by going to secondharvestmidtn.org/food2families

Complete the Food Drive Registration Form in its entirety to ensure timely food bank follow-up, appropriate box delivery and donation pick-up. **YOU MUST FILL OUT THE ONLINE FORM TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE MENTIONED PRIZES.**

2. Get your food drive boxes*

Pick up food drive collection boxes at Second Harvest (331 Great Circle Road, Nashville, TN 37228) Monday - Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. If 10 or fewer food drive boxes are needed, we ask that schools pick up the boxes and return them once full. This saves significant staff and transportation dollars, which can then be used to mobilize more food for those in need.

3. Collect food donations

4. Get your donations to Second Harvest

If you are dropping off full food drive boxes, please contact Jack Stell at 615-627-1567 or email jack.stell@secondharvestmidtn.org

If your donations are being picked up by Second Harvest, all donation boxes must be located on the first floor of your building, near a main entrance. Drivers will not collect boxes from each classroom. To schedule a pick-up of your donated items please call Jack at 615-627-1567 or email food.drives@secondharvestmidtn.org.

5. Wait to hear how much you raised!

We will let you know how many pounds you donated once everything is weighed at our facility.

*Schools can collect donations in any container and deliver them to Second Harvest **before** November 7, 2026.
All donations picked up by Second Harvest must be in Second Harvest Food collection boxes, no exceptions.

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