

Acceptable Food Donation Policy

■ What We Accept

- Unopened, shelf-stable, nonperishable items
- Items in original, intact packaging with labels
- Food within “best by,” “use by,” or “sell by” dates
- Household and personal care items (soap, toothpaste, etc.) when allowed
- Foods deemed “apparently wholesome” under the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act

■ What We Cannot Accept

- Perishable foods (dairy, meat, produce) unless prearranged
- Leftovers, home-prepared meals, or baked goods from personal kitchens
- Expired or out-of-date items
- Opened, damaged, or tampered packaging (dented cans, broken seals)
- Foods in glass containers (risk of breakage), unless approved
- Items requiring special handling beyond our capacity

■■ Donation Guidelines

- Please deliver donations directly to staff or volunteers (unattended items may be discarded)
- Contact us in advance for large donations so we can prepare storage and distribution
- Consider a monetary donation — it allows us to purchase exactly what’s needed
- Donors making good-faith donations are protected under the Good Samaritan Act