



Office of the County Executive

Jonathan Delagrave

730 Wisconsin Avenue

Racine, WI 53403

262-636-3273

fax: 262-636-3549

Jonathan.Delagrave@racinecounty.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 9, 2017

MEDIA CONTACT: M.T. Boyle

(262) 636-3120

MT.Boyle@racinecounty.com

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS (NALC) "STAMP OUT HUNGER"
FOOD DRIVE IS MAY 13TH

Donate non-perishable food items to benefit local families

Racine—On May 13, 2017, the 25th annual NALC National Food Drive to “Stamp Out Hunger” will take place. “Stamp Out Hunger” is the largest one-day food drive in the nation. Over the last 24 national food drives, letter carriers collected more than 1.5 billion pounds of food. Locally, food is collected for the Racine County Food Bank, “The Food Pantry’s Food Pantry,” by NALC Branch 436 with help from the U.S. Postal Service, United Way of Racine County, the AFL-CIO, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Park High School’s Key Club and the Racine Founders Rotary Club, to name a few. Space does not permit thanks to all the individuals and organizations that contribute their time and talents to this important event.

An estimated 50 million people face hunger every day in America, including more than 17 million children. In Racine County, an average of over 2,200 households are served each month through our network of food pantries. Those households contain over 6,400 family members, of which almost 3,000 are children. Last year, the Racine County Food Bank was the beneficiary of over 62,000 pounds of non-perishable food generated by this food drive. This year’s drive is extremely important to our neighbors who face economic uncertainty. As a result, the goal for 2017 is to collect 100,000 pounds of food; a goal that our community can certainly achieve!

This drive, our largest, typically provides the Food Bank with 6-10% of all of the food that we distribute to our affiliate pantries, shelters and meal programs throughout the county for the entire year. Donations collected from this food drive help the Racine County Food Bank feed the hungry all summer – a high-risk period for hunger because many children in need are not receiving regular meals in school.

When considering your donation, we ask that you avoid items packaged in glass; one broken jar can damage hundreds of other donations. In addition, please do not donate frozen food, homemade food or home-canned items or items that have gone beyond the “best if used by” date. In keeping with good food-handling and food-safety procedures, food that is opened, damaged or does not have the official ingredients included will be discarded in the sorting process. Finally, while we will gladly take any non-perishable food that you have to offer, you

can make your donation extra special by donating one or more of the high-protein and nutrient packed most needed items which include: peanut butter, canned protein (tuna, salmon, chicken and turkey) and canned fruit or 100% fruit juice. You can also donate healthy, low-sodium, low-sugar items such as beans, oatmeal and other whole grains.

For more information, contact Dan Taivalkoski, Executive Director of the Racine County Food Bank at 262.632.2307.

###