



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Every spring the Scouting community from Pathway to Adventure Council mobilizes across Illinois and Indiana to gather food for their neighbors in need.

The Scouts from the Pathway to Adventure Council are yet again hosting a food drive to help families in need. Your donations of non-perishable, non-expired foods will support local food pantries.

Below are some answers to some frequently asked questions about the Scouting for Food (SFF) campaign:

### When is SFF Happening?

#### February-March:

- Unit Leaders – review your unit's territory map and select a neighborhood for canvassing. Confirm your boundaries, order door hangers (due by March 14), secure a local food pantry to deliver donations, and promote the event using flyers and social media graphics from [pathwaytoadventure.org/SFF](http://pathwaytoadventure.org/SFF)

#### April 26:

- Door Hanger Day – Unit leaders will provide everyone with door hangers, maps and driver instructions. Scouts and volunteers will canvass their neighborhoods to distribute informational door hangers.

#### May 3:

- Collection Day – Scouts and volunteers will collect donations from homes after 9am. Unit leaders will deliver the donations to your chosen food pantry and note the total weight and/or number of items.

### How can my Scout, Unit, or Company Participate?

#### Neighborhood Canvassing:

- Distribute door hangers one week and return the next to collect donations and deliver them to a local food pantry.

#### Grocery Store Drive:

- Set up a collection area with permission from a store manager and solicit donations from shoppers.

#### Scout Sunday (Feb. 9):

- Collect donations from members of local houses of worship.

#### Community Drop-Off Sites:

- Partner with libraries, schools, or businesses to set up a collection area.

#### Donate Online:

- Text Scout4Food to 41444 to make a monetary donation.

#### Corporate Partnership:

- Give back to the community by providing a food drop site, a truck for transportation, or by making a monetary donation to receive branded sponsorship opportunities.

## How Can I Help Promote SFF?

- Use **flyers and social media graphics** from [pathwaytoadventure.org/SFF](http://pathwaytoadventure.org/SFF) and photos from the council [Flickr](#) page.
- Share a **sample message** in newsletters or on social media to explain the event and encourage donations.  
**Sample message:** [Cub Scout pack, Scouts BSA troop, Venture crew, etc.] sponsored by [Chartering Organization] needs your help – and so do thousands of hungry people in our community. Our Scouts are participating in the annual Scouting for Food service opportunity by collecting donations of non-perishable food and hygiene items in their neighborhood on [date]. All items will stock the shelves of [local food bank/pantry name]. Visit [pathwaytoadventure.org](http://pathwaytoadventure.org) to learn more about Scouting in our area. Thank you for making a difference in our community!
- Work with your **chartering organization** to spread the word: hang flyers in approved locations, speak to local officials about issuing a proclamation, and create awareness through social media.
- Ask **local organizations** to share your message and encourage physical or financial donations.

## What Food Pantry Opportunities are There for Each Age Group?

### Younger Scouts (Cub Scouts):

#### *What is a Food Pantry?*

- Organize a tour of a food pantry. Staff members can provide a brief presentation about the pantry's mission, its clients, and how food donations make a difference.

#### *Birthday Bags or Cards for Clients*

- Younger Scouts can bring their own supplies to assemble birthday bags with cake mix, candles, and other small items to donate to a food pantry. Creating thoughtful cards for clients is another impactful activity.

### Webelos:

- Webelos Scouts are encouraged to take a more active role in volunteering, either with a parent or in small groups to assist during client service hours, interacting directly with clients and helping distribute food.

### Scouts BSA, Venturers, Sea Scouts, Explorers:

#### *Independent Volunteering*

- Regular Client Service Shifts: Scouts aged 12+ can volunteer during client service shifts (with parent/guardian permission), assisting clients, restocking shelves, and organizing food.

#### *Team-Building Opportunities*

- Sorting Food Donations: After a food drive, a Scout group can assist in sorting and organizing donated items.
- Food Insecurity Education: Watching documentaries like A Place at the Table and engaging in discussions can deepen Scouts' understanding of food insecurity as a national concern.

#### *Eagle Project Opportunities*

- Scouts and food pantry leadership can discuss potential Eagle Scout projects, such as building pantry infrastructure or creating client resources to implement longer-term improvements.



Questions? Contact [PTAC.ScoutingForFood@scouting.org](mailto:PTAC.ScoutingForFood@scouting.org)

To register and for assets to help promote Scouting for food, visit:

**[WWW.PATHWAYTOADVENTURE.ORG/SFF/](http://WWW.PATHWAYTOADVENTURE.ORG/SFF/)**