Five Reasons to Hold a Food Drive

Currently, nearly 20,000 food services are provided each month through the Access Pantry Network, which consists of 75 food pantries in Kent County. Here are five reasons why food drives are important:

1. **Food drives round out what is needed.** There are a number of items that people need, the pantries want to provide, but are not always available at the Food Bank. Food Drives increase the supply of high need items such as soup, peanut butter, tuna, canned fruits and vegetables, and personal care items.

2. **Food drives increase the donor pool.** Often, connections are made between the donor and the organization serving the hungry. Food Drive donations can save pantries thousands of dollars a year. A small donation from many adds up to a tremendous amount of food for the hungry.

3. **Food drives raise awareness about poverty and the need to advocate for the poor.** Educational efforts can be tied into food collections to provide holistic ministry.

4. **Food Drives provide creative hands-on projects.** The education provided to a child who takes a can out of the cupboard to share with someone who needs it can be far more valuable than putting money in a collection plate. Youth Groups can easily become involved in food collection efforts.

5. **Food drives build community** so people from a wide range of ages, neighborhoods, churches, schools, and businesses all work together for a common cause, get acquainted and become friends.

For more information on organizing a food drive, contact your local food pantry or the Access office at 774-2175.