

LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND

FEED THE HUNGRY ADDENDUM

Overview

As a result of the coronavirus, millions of people have lost their jobs. It may be months before they can return to work and earn a living wage. Those with limited financial resources will be unable to buy food. Knights are urged to help provide the “daily bread” for their neighbors immediately and to continue doing so until this crisis has been resolved.

The Supreme Council has launched an initiative to address this hunger crisis. The Knights of Columbus Leave No Neighbor Behind Fund will financially support food banks in areas most impacted by the coronavirus. Started with a million-dollar donation from the Supreme Council, the Leave No Neighbor Behind Fund is providing immediate relief to depleted food banks in more than 20 hard-hit cities across the United States and Canada.

Councils, assemblies, and Brother Knights are strongly encouraged to make contributions to the relief effort, both locally and regionally. This addendum to the *Leave No Neighbor Behind Guidebook* (#11039) provides specific recommendations on how to do so.

Donating Funds to the Knights of Columbus International Effort

The simplest and fastest way to help is to support the Knights of Columbus Leave No Neighbor Behind Fund. All donations (100%) received will go directly towards supporting relief efforts and the work of the Leave No Neighbor Behind initiative.

1. Encourage members to make contributions directly to the Knights of Columbus Leave No Neighbor Behind Fund.
2. Consider making a monetary donation from your council or assembly.
3. Tell your pastor about the Knights of Columbus Leave No Neighbor Behind Fund. Ask for permission to promote this initiative within the entire parish.
4. If collecting cash and checks, follow all relevant coronavirus precautions and guidelines to prevent spread of the virus when handling donations.
5. Forward all collected donations directly to the Leave No Neighbor Behind Fund. Donations can be made through KofC.org, over the phone at 1-800-694-5713, or by sending a check to K of C Charities, Inc.

Address: Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc.

PO Box 382154

Pittsburgh, PA 15251-8154

6. Report your activities with the *Leave No Neighbor Behind Survey* at www.kofc.org/neighbor.



Donating Funds to a Local Food Bank or Pantry

Councils and assemblies should reach out to local food banks and determine their specific needs. Food banks may prefer to receive cash or gift cards that can be used to purchase exactly what is needed.

1. Contact a local food bank or food pantry to determine their immediate needs. Build on existing relationships from past programs. If there is no local organization in your area, ask your State Council or diocese to identify nearby food banks that need support.
2. Encourage members to make monetary contributions directly to the food bank or pantry.
3. Consider making a monetary donation from your council or assembly.
4. Talk with your pastor about the needs of local food banks and pantries. Ask for permission to coordinate this initiative within the entire parish.
5. If collecting cash and checks, follow all relevant coronavirus precautions and guidelines to prevent spread of the virus when handling donations.
6. Forward all collected donations directly to the local food bank or pantry.
7. Report your activities with the *Leave No Neighbor Behind Survey* at www.kofc.org/neighbor.

Collecting and Distributing Food for a Food Bank or Pantry

In normal times, food drives are a routine part of council and parish charitable activity. Donations of food directly to local hunger relief organizations can make a significant difference in the effort to alleviate the great need caused by the coronavirus. If your parish or town has a local food bank or pantry, you can work with them to support their essential services while taking all necessary precautions to prevent spread of the coronavirus.

1. Contact a local food bank or food pantry to ask their immediate needs. Build on existing relationships from past programs. If there is no local organization in your area, ask your State Council or diocese to identify nearby food banks that need support.
2. Talk with your pastor about the needs of local food banks and pantries. Ask for permission to coordinate a parish food drive. If you are unable to hold a parish-wide food drive, you can still conduct a food drive within your council or assembly.
3. Solicit food donations from your Brother Knights and parishioners. Arrange to collect food in a manner that will not cause spread of the coronavirus. Establish collection points that satisfy social distancing guidelines. Take precautions to avoid transmission of infectious particles from handling the packages of food.
4. Before delivering food to the partner organization, consider disinfecting each box or can. The local food bank or pantry may have handling and sanitizing procedures in place. Follow their guidelines.
5. Coordinate volunteers to help the food bank or pantry with delivery and distribution of food as needed. This could involve safely transferring bags of food to recipients, delivery of food to front porches, placing bags of food in cars, or other means of delivery. In all cases, it is essential to follow all relevant coronavirus precautions and guidelines.
6. Report your activities with the *Leave No Neighbor Behind Survey* at www.kofc.org/neighbor.