



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Thank you for your interest in the Curbside Food Drive!

With the increasing numbers of unemployment and those experiencing food insecurity in Johnson County during the COVID-19 pandemic, food pantries are experiencing a 30%-40% increase in need. This is expected to increase, and the donations are not keeping up with the demand. Prior to the pandemic, Johnson County had nearly 60,000 individuals who were food insecure and did not know where their next meal was coming from.

### What is the Curbside Food Drive?

The Johnson County Food Policy Council (FPC) in partnership with Johnson County Health and Environment (JCDHE) and Johnson County K-State Research and Extension (EXC) is organizing curbside pickup of food and hygiene products collected by Neighborhood Volunteers (NVs) to be distributed to local food pantries in Johnson County.

### What are Neighborhood Volunteers (NVs)?

NVs are individuals that volunteer to coordinate a food drive with their immediate neighbors.

### How do I become an NV?

You can go to [Curbside Food Drive - Volunteer List](#) to sign up. There is no limit of NVs that can sign up per neighborhood if minimums are met. Staff will assist in coordination if neighborhoods have multiple NVs sign up.

### How do NVs collect donations from their neighbors?

A Johnson County staff member (SM) will be assigned to NVs to determine a safe spot for collection. This can be a front doorstep, a driveway, clubhouse or other shared use areas preferably that are walkable. We want to encourage physical activity, fresh air and neighborhood connectedness while also keeping our residents safe and practicing physical distancing. Please seek permission from appropriate parties before designating a drop off site. Schools are discouraged.

### How do I arrange for pick up once I have collected the items?

Contact your SM to arrange a pickup time.

### Is there a minimum NVs need to collect before having the food picked up?

Yes. We are requesting that NVs collect a minimum of 100 items before arranging pick up.

### What items are needed?

Johnson County's food pantries are asking for common non-perishable food items such as peanut butter, jelly, canned soup, canned pasta, canned fruit and cereal, and hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, toilet paper, and cleaning supplies.

### Who will receive the food and hygiene products?

All items will benefit Johnson County residents. Johnson County Human Services has three food pantry locations: North Central (Lenexa), North East (Mission), and South West (Gardner).

### What if myself or someone I know needs food or hygiene products?

Appointments are required to receive services at these three locations. Residents in Johnson County in need of food pantry or utility assistance, please call 913-715-6653. For a list of other pantries located in Johnson County visit <https://jocogov.org/dept/human-services/outreach/food-pantries>.

Contact Renee Bryant at [renee.bryant@jocogov.org](mailto:renee.bryant@jocogov.org) for more information.