



I am fighting hunger.

## Creative Ideas for Cash & Food Drives: Schools & Civic Groups

### Coin Drives Competition

Get large water jugs and have a competition between classrooms. The winning classroom has a party or a special treat. Give awards for most overall cash or food donations.

### Poster Contest

Sponsor a "Associated Ministries Hunger Walk Poster Contest:" students draw posters to encourage food donations. Posters can be placed in local businesses.

### Large Ribbons

Provide lapel-sized green ribbons for students and teachers to wear throughout the month. Create large green ribbons to place on visible doors to serve as a reminder that the Campaign is on, and to bring their donation.

### Compete between High Schools

Competing High Schools: hold a Hunger Walk Challenge for the most pledges and team members. Leading up to the Hunger Walk event we will announce the winner.

### Popcorn Sales

Rent a popcorn machine and sell fresh popped popcorn during the afternoon.



*MJ - Decided to sell lemonade to raise money for the Hunger Walk.*

### Involve School Staff

When students meet a food collection goal, the principal or another high-profile teacher or coach can perform a stunt such as kissing a pig, shaving face or head, dressing like Elvis, etc. This works wonders — some schools have even gotten on local television news!

### Collect Spare Change

Collect spare change during every school sporting event, musical event, play or school dance in a huge water jug.

### Civic Group Food Drives

Organize a "Shopping Cart Race" between the police chief and sheriff (or other local leaders). Contestants race through the grocery store to fill carts with food items for the food shelf. The cart with the most food in the allotted time wins.

# Creative Ideas for Food and Cash Drives:

## Civic Groups and Schools School Food Drives

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Businesses or civic groups “back” one participant or the other, and pay for the cart of groceries.

### Other Ideas

- Use a traveling dessert cart to sell homemade desserts at an event or meeting.
  - Issue a Chili Challenge. Serve batches of chili that get progressively hotter each day (have the server of the hottest batch dressed as a fire fighter). Sell tickets to benefit a food shelf.
  - Barbecue brats and/or burgers in the parking lot at noon for lunch or dinner break. Charge for the meal to benefit a food bank.
  - Fill a jar full of jellybeans or other small items and sell guesses of how many are in the jar. The winner gets a prize and the jar. Proceeds to the food shelf. Hold a rummage sale to benefit the Hunger Walk.
  - Collect spare change for hunger. Encourage group members to bring either all of their change on a given day, or specific coins on specific days. Provide a coin rolling machine.
  - For those friends and relatives who are difficult to shop for, make a cash donation to a the Hunger Walk or the Emergency Food Network in lieu of gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, holidays or memorials.
- Ask congregants to bring “meals in a bag,” such as the following:
    - Spaghetti sauce, pasta noodles, Parmesan cheese, canned fruit, and salad dressing.
    - Tuna helper, cans of tuna fish, canned fruit, and muffin mix.
    - Cans of beef stew, cans of green beans or corn, muffin mix, and fruit cocktail.
    - Cans of chili, cans of pears, canned vegetables, box of soda crackers, and jar of peanut butter.
    - Cans of soup, box of soda crackers, canned fruit, juice, and jar of peanut butter.
  - Invite the group to bring a different meal each Sunday during March:
    - Week 1 = Breakfast: Hot cereal, canned fruit, bags of sugar, canned juice, muffin mix, and hot cocoa mix.
    - Week 2 = Lunch: Soup, crackers, pickles, tuna, mayo, cookies, and juice.
    - Week 3 = Dinner: Canned beef stew or canned spaghetti sauce and pasta, canned fruit, and dinner roll mix.
    - Week 4 = Personal Products: Toothpaste, tooth brushes, toilet paper and paper towels.

All of the resources you need to plan a great Hunger Walk Campaign are available at:  
<http://www.amhungerwalk.org>

Looking for new ideas to encourage and collect nutritious food donations? Try these: