

Details:

- The South Metro Denver Chamber Health & Wellness Council is putting on the “For the LOVE of Food – Donation & Food Drive” to support 2 local fellow Chamber member nonprofit partners:

- o Integrated Family Community Services in Englewood– <https://www.ifcs.org/>
- o SECORCares in Parker - <https://www.secorcares.com/>

Donation List

Feeding America’s 2014 *Hunger in America* study found that 79% of clients purchase inexpensive and unhealthy foods just to make ends meet. However, clients reported that they want to have a healthier diet; 55 percent of client households reported fresh fruit and vegetables as one of their most desired items when visiting a food pantry, 47 percent cited protein food items (including meat), and 40 percent cited dairy products. It is more beneficial to provide monetary donations to take advantage of the buying power of the nonprofit partners along with their ability to purchase and store fresh fruit and vegetables, meat, and dairy products.

FOOD DONATIONS:

Fruits and Vegetables

- **Low-sodium or water packed canned vegetables**, including tomatoes and tomato sauce (spaghetti sauce) which can be easily obtained and are great alternatives to their fresh counterparts.
- **Canned fruits in 100% juice or lite syrup** are great sources of Vitamin C because only a small amount of it is lost in the canning process.
- **100% fruit and vegetable juices** in all container forms are welcome, including canned, plastic, and boxed.
- **Dried fruits and vegetables** with no added sugar or fat.

Proteins

- **Low-sodium or water packed canned meats and seafood** such as chicken, tuna, salmon, and clams are high in protein, low in saturated fat, and rich in a variety of vitamins and minerals.
- **Dried beans, peas and lentils** are high in fiber and low-fat sources of protein.
- **Low-sodium canned beans and peas** such as kidney, black, cannellini, black eyed, and chickpeas are high in fiber and low-fat sources of protein. Rinsing beans and removing the canning liquid can reduce their sodium content.

Dairy and Dairy Substitutes

- **Shelf stable (non-refrigerated) milk or non-dairy alternatives** such as soy and almond milk are great sources of Vitamin D and calcium. In addition, shelf-stable dehydrated milk and canned evaporated milk are also encouraged.

100% Whole Grains

- **Whole-wheat pasta, barley, brown rice, and wild rice** are complex carbohydrates. They contain good sources of fiber, which are more satiating and filling.
- **Whole-grain cereal and rolled oats with at least 3g of fiber** such as breakfast cereals can be additional sources of vitamins and minerals. Low-sugar or unsweetened cereals and oats are also highly encouraged.

Healthy Fats

- **Low-sodium nuts and nut butters** such as peanuts, almonds, and cashews are rich in protein and fiber. They also contain “good fat’s” and vitamins that are known to positively support heart health, such as monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats, omega-3 fatty acids, and Vitamin E.

Other Options – Not as Healthy but Requested

- **Condiments (in plastic containers – no glass) – Catsup, Mustard, Mayonnaise, Relish**
- **Coffee**
- **Cookies**
- **Crackers**
- **Granola Bars**
- **Jelly**
- **Oatmeal (Instant)**
- **Pancake Mix**
- **Pasta**
- **Peanut Butter**
- **Potatoes (Instant)**
- **Pudding (non-refrigerated)**
- **Raman Noodles**
- **Soup**
- **Tea**

NON-FOOD DONATIONS:

- **Bar Soap / Body Wash**
- **Shampoo / Conditioner / Combination Shampoo & Conditioner**
- **Deodorant**
- **Shaving Razors**
- **Toilet Paper**
- **Toothbrushes**
- **Toothpaste**
- **Floss**
- **Feminine Hygiene Products**
- **Grocery Gift Cards**
- **Monetary Donations**