

Food recovery program

Republic Services partners with Food Finders

Simple ways to recover food and eliminate hunger

Good food doesn't belong in the trash, but sadly it often ends up there. At restaurants where a special didn't sell well, bakeries with too many of yesterday's bagels, or grocery stores rotating out older stock, edible food has often ended up in trash cans and then headed to the landfills.

Food Finders

Food Finders is a non-profit organization. Since, 1989, they have received more than 132 million pounds of donated, wholesome food, providing enough food for more than 100 million meals. This food is delivered same-day to non-profit shelters, missions, senior and youth centers, recovery homes, and other agencies. Some business donate regularly and others just occasionally.



If your business is interested in donating food through this partnership, contact Republic Services at:

562-347-4100



We'll handle it from here.™



Frequently Asked Questions

What do you need from me to get started?

We can meet to discuss what food you will be donating, how often (daily/weekly/monthly) and what time is best for Food Finders to pick up. We will also have you sign a donor agreement that ensures we know what's expected of each other. This way you can also show your city office you are participating in a food recovery program.

What if I don't know ahead of time what I can donate?

Food Finders can arrange a pickup within 24 hours normally, but we prefer to be notified in advance as much as possible when you think you have food overages.

What food handling measures are in place once I donate?

Food Finders has a food handler's certificate as do all of the pantries and agencies we partner with that receive the food. For large donations, all of our vehicles are refrigerated. Volunteers are trained on proper practices and generally travel less than 5 miles to the designated recipient's location.

How do I contain the food for donation?

We suggest using what you would normally use to store the food at your location. Food Finders can also provide disposable or re-useable containers as needed.

Is there a minimum donation you will take?

Food Finders generally takes any amount of food available, since they serve a range of sizes of agencies, so even a single tray of pasta or sandwiches should never go to waste.

Will you provide me with a tax receipt?

Food Finders provides receipts monthly or annually as needed, which include the amount of food donated (pounds) and category of food. We do not assign a dollar value - that is up to your individual accountant.

What if someone gets ill from the food donated?

While we have never had a case of food borne illness, Food Finders carries liability insurance and requires it's recipient agencies to have proof of insurance as well. Our recipient agencies are responsible for properly storing and servicing food, and part of our agreement with them is that they have proper refrigeration and cooking facilities as needed.

Can I request the pantry or shelter where my food is donated?

Yes, and we can coordinate that partnership for you, as long as the food you donate is what they need!

To get started, contact:

Diana Lara at dlara@foodfinders.org OR **Chris Wong** at cwong@foodfinders.org
OR call **562-283-1400**, to arrange for a food donation and additional information.



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