

FEED the NEED FAQ Sheet

What is FEED the NEED?

FEED the NEED is r12's community outreach project. It is titled FEED the NEED for two reasons: First, the title speaks to the fact that there are hungry people in the South Bay who are in need of food and our ability to provide that food. Secondly, it speaks to the fact that Christians are meant to serve and are fulfilled by service.

Romans 12:13 says, "Share with God's people who are in need." Now is our opportunity to serve in love by feeding the need. We cannot do it without you! FEED the NEED involves 2 major projects: A food drive with Second Harvest Food Bank and adopting families in need throughout the Bay Area.

Project #1 – Food Drive for Second Harvest Food Bank

Who can be involved?

Everyone! We are asking that every person who attends Venture, including children and students, to provide at least one bag of canned food for the food drive. We are also asking that you get your neighbors, business, co-workers and friends involved. Los Gatos Christian School and the Venture Youth Basketball League will also be participating in the food drive.

What is the goal?

Our goal is to raise 45,000 lbs. of food... that's approximately 30,000 meals!

What kind of food to I need to collect?

The Food Bank needs nutritious, non-perishable foods:

- Meals in a can (stew, chili, soup)
- Tuna and canned meat
- Peanut butter
- Canned foods with pop-top lids
- Low-sugar cereals
- 100% fruit juices in single serving boxes
- Canned fruit packed in juice
- Canned vegetables (low salt)

Please avoid donating items packaged in glass.

We request that you do not purchase bulk quantities of rice, flour or sugar for donation. Please contact the Donor Hotline at 1-866-234-3663 for details.

What are the dates of the project?

The dates of the food drive are February 8 – 21.

When can I drop off food at Venture?

If it is not raining on the weekend, you can leave your bag(s) of food on the trunk of your car. Team members will collect the food during services. If it is raining, please bring it to your nearest entrance and barrels will be available.

Monday - Friday: You can drop off food between 9am-5pm at the Venture Church office located at 16845 Hicks Rd. Los Gatos, CA 95032

Saturday: You can drop off food during the Saturday evening service (5pm – 6:30pm) at entrances on the Venture campus.

Sunday: You can drop off food during the Sunday morning services (9am – 12:30pm) at entrances on the Venture campus.

Where will the food collect for the food drive go?

All the food collected during the food drive will go to Second Harvest Food Bank. For more information on Second Harvest Food Bank you can go to www.shfb.org.

Can I bring more than one bag of food?

Absolutely! In order to reach our goal we will need many individuals who choose to give more than one bag of canned food.

Can I bring items not on the list?

We ask that you purchase items from the list. Second Harvest Food Bank has been providing food for those in need for many years and know what items are most needed.

Who do I contact for more info?

If you need more information on the food drive component of the FEED the NEED project, please call the Venture office at (408) 997-4600.

Project #2 – Adopt a Family

Who can be involved?

Any small group, community group or mid size group who are participating in the r12 study. Some of those ministries include: Women's Bible Studies, Men's Bible Studies, Student Ministry Small Groups / Table Groups, Mops, Community groups and more.

What is the goal?

The goal is to connect every r12 group with a family in need. The hope is to serve over 225 families in the south bay.

What are the dates of the project?

Small groups will take fresh food to their family sometime between February 15-27.

How does my small group adopt a family?

Your small group host will attend a short meeting after one of the Venture services on the weekend of February 6 & 7. Directly following the meeting, your small group host will adopt a family for your group to serve.

What will my small group provide for our adopted family?

Your small group will provide enough **fresh** groceries to take care of your family's needs for a week. Your small group host will have a list of acceptable foods for your family to include: dairy, fresh fruits and vegetables, meats and bakery items. Approach the project by asking what kinds of things you would purchase to provide fresh food for your family. Each small group will also be provided with a list of items which the family would not be able to eat.

How and when will I get in touch with my family?

Your small group host will be given all the contact information for your adopted family. Your small group host will choose a family to adopt based on the night of the week your adopted family will be at home and available to receive the fresh food you provide.

What if my family doesn't speak English?

You are going to have to take the initiative to find an interpreter. If no one in your group is bilingual, bring someone from work or a neighborhood who can speak the language. Ask a child in the home you visit to translate. Be creative, and don't let the language barrier keep you from blessing your family.

What to do I at my family's house?

Make sure to introduce yourself and find out a little about their family. Take time to ask if you can pray for them and if they have any prayer request. Pray for them and their home if they allow. Look for opportunities to encourage your adopted family while you spend time with them.

Does my whole small group have to be involved?

Yes! If at all possible your whole group needs to participate in purchasing food, and take the food to your adopted family. The project is about serving together.

Is this a one-time service opportunity with our specific family?

Yes. The families being served by Venture small groups will be followed up with by the already connected ministries: Arbor Apartments, Young Life, Venture Christian Church and Kids Club. If your group is led to further assist this family, that option is entirely up to all of you.

What if my small group, family or a group of my friends wants to adopt an additional family?

Unfortunately we have a lot of r12 groups and limited number of families who will be adopted. If you are not connected to an r12 group we won't be able to provide a family for you to adopt. However, we encourage you to find a family in need at work, school or your neighborhood that you can bless.

Am I allowed to switch families?

Once your group has adopted a family we won't be able to switch the family you serve.

Who do I contact if I have any questions?

If you need more information about the adopt-a-family component of the FEED the NEED project, please call the Venture office at (408) 997-4600.