



The Open Door
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive by Local Letter Carriers to Benefit The Open Door

CAPE ANN—Letter carriers from the Gloucester, Rockport, Manchester-by-the-Sea and Ipswich Post Offices will deliver donations left by mailboxes Saturday to The Open Door.

The initiative is part of the [30th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive](#), a nationwide effort spearheaded by the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC).

“Stamp Out Hunger is a unique opportunity for members of the community to make a food donation, without having to leave their front yard. It’s traditionally a hugely successful food drive for us, and it’s all possible because our local letter carriers are willing to go the extra mile to put food on the table for others,” President and CEO Julie LaFontaine said. “We’re deeply thankful to partner with them on this event and for their dedication to alleviating the impact of hunger locally.”

Residents of Gloucester, Rockport, Manchester-by-the-Sea, and Ipswich who wish to participate may leave a bag of food out by their mailbox on the morning of Saturday, May 14. The Open Door is specifically requesting donations of the following: **coffee, condiments, peanut butter, tuna, and cooking oil**. Members of the community are urged **NOT** to donate items in glass jars, and to only contribute non-expired goods.

Those who live outside the above four communities are encouraged to contact their post office to learn if they are participating in the Stamp Out Hunger food drive.

“This is the largest single day food drive in the United States,” said Bruce Johnson, a retired Gloucester letter carrier who continues to help coordinate NALC Branch 25’s Stamp Out Hunger food drive on Cape Ann. “The timing is crucial because food pantries can face shortages in the spring and summer months after a long winter, and most school programs are not available in the summer. It’s a good time to fill the shelves at the food pantries.”

There has not been an in-person Stamp Out Hunger food drive since 2019 due to the pandemic, Johnson said.

Those who wish to volunteer to help The Open Door sort donations on Saturday can contact volunteer@foodpantry.org.

About The Open Door

The mission of The Open Door is to alleviate the impact of hunger in our community. We use practical strategies to connect people to good food, to advocate on behalf of those in need, and to engage others in the work of building food security.

Founded in 1978, The Open Door is a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit and community food resource center for low-income residents of Gloucester, Rockport, Manchester, Essex, Ipswich, Hamilton, Boxford, Rowley, Topsfield, and Wenham. **In 2021, The Open Door helped stabilize the lives and health of 8,516 people from 4,176 households through the distribution of 1.83 million pounds of food.**

For more information, visit FOODPANTRY.org.

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