



**APACHE JUNCTION  
FOOD BANK  
AJFOODBANK.ORG**

## Food and Fund Drive Themes

You can make your food drive more successful if you have a theme or creative way to attract and retain participants.

1. **CANstruction**- Build simple or elaborate sculptures using canned goods to be donated to the Apache Junction Food Bank. You can go to [www.canstruction.org](http://www.canstruction.org) for more information or ideas for your project.
2. **Cans for Coins**- Collect pocket change and donate it to AJFB.
3. **Coin Wars** – Plan a penny war between classrooms. Each class collects change in a container. Students throw dollar bills into the container of another classroom in order to “cancel out” that class’ change. In other words, change in the container equals “positive” points, while bills equal “negative” points. The team with the most positive points at the end of the war wins!
4. **Special Dress Day** – Let employees or students “pay” with food to dress a special way (i.e. Jean day, casual dress or tropical shirt day)
5. **“Eat in for Hunger”**- Encourage employees to bring a brown bag lunch and donate the money they would have spent on lunch.
6. **“Is Dinner Ready” Food Drive**- Collect combinations of food that can be used to prepare a meal.  
Use your imagination to think of meal combinations:  
*Spaghetti Noodles and Sauce*  
*Refried beans, taco shells, salsa and Mexican seasonings*
7. **Kids for Kids Food Drive**- Have students collect foods specifically for other kids. Have them think about what a healthy after school snack might be. Some ideas are: Juices, granola bars, fruit cups or applesauce.
8. **Host a “Virtual Food Drive”**- Have employees come to our website and donate through our website.
9. **Hold a Raffle**- The price for a raffle ticket can be a can of food or \$1 to be donated to the Apache Junction Food Bank. Prizes can be anything from a “free jean day pass” to a gift certificate.
10. **See where your food goes**- Make arrangements for your group to hold a food drive and then volunteer at the Food Bank to sort your donated food.

11. **Fill the Bag**- Provide every student/employee with a bag to fill with non-perishable items.
12. **Have a "Flea Market"**- Ask employees or students to donate new or gently new toys, crafts and goods to sell and then donate the proceeds.
13. **Cooking Contest**- Where your own "chefs" have a cook off and employees vote for the best dishes or menus. To vote, everyone must donate \$1, or perhaps your chefs will offer to cook dinner for a raffle winner.
14. **MEAT the Need** – Canned meat drive (i.e. tuna, Spam, chicken)
15. **Make Every BEAN COUNT** – Canned or dried beans drive.
16. **Read to Feed** – For every book a student reads, a can of food is donated
17. **Let the Stars Come Out** – Use a local celebrity to help increase publicity and contributions
18. **Wash Away Hunger** –Have a car wash where the price of a wash is a food item or a monetary donation to the Apache Junction Food Bank
19. **No-Show Picnic** – Host a picnic where no food is served, but instead is collected.
20. **Hunger Walk, Run, Bike, or Dance-A-Thon** – Have sponsors pledge food or money to be donated.
21. **"Trick or Treat" for food**- Take your children trick or treating for food
22. **Management "Weigh In"** – Weigh your management team and use that as your goal for pounds or dollars collected.
23. **"Change their luck" Potluck**- Have participants bring a potluck dish, along with the recipe for their dish and the ingredients to prepare the dish, to be donated to the Food Bank.
24. **Food Themed Days**- Have participants bring in food donations to correspond with that days food theme.
  - Macaroni Monday
  - Tuna Tuesday
  - Whole Grain Wednesday
  - Peanut Butter Thursday
  - Fruity Friday