



MealConnect

Real Time donation process

Poll

What percentage of the U.S. food supply goes uneaten every year?

How MealConnect works for Donors

MealConnect™ FEEDING AMERICA

Food Recovery. Simplified.



To source more meals and help end hunger in America, Feeding America has created MealConnect™, an online tool that makes it easier than ever to connect your excess food with your local Feeding America member food bank and its partners.



EASY PICKUPS
conveniently on your schedule



REAL-TIME ACTIVITY TRACKING
including alerts when your donation is accepted



TAX SAVINGS
through simple receipt recording

PUT YOUR UNUSED FOOD TO GOOD USE. SIMPLY.



POST PRODUCT
easily from your computer or phone



GET ALERTED
when your donation is accepted



PICKUP MADE
based on your availability



FEEL GREAT
helping the hungry in your community

SHARE THE FOOD. SHARE THE FEEL-GOOD.



TELL STAFF, VENDORS, CUSTOMERS
Coworkers and staff feel good knowing their company actively helps the hungry

Customers take pride knowing you're making a difference while reducing landfill waste

How MealConnect works for Agencies



RECEIVE FREE FOOD THROUGH MealConnect™

And Reduce Food Waste in Your Community



GET NOTIFIED of a new donation in real time, which will be delivered by a trained volunteer



RECEIVE YOUR FOOD and weigh it by category



ENTER A RECEIPT on MealConnect.org:

- Click **Real-Time » Transactions » Details » Create Receipt**
- Enter **Category, Storage, Description** and Pounds
- Click **Add Receipt**

Sources and Types of Donations facilitated through Meal Connect

SOURCES of Product

Prepared Foods Sources

- Restaurants
- Schools and Corporate cafeterias
- Sporting events / venues
- Catering companies
- Churches and other religious organization

Packaged Product Sources

- Food Manufacturing facilities – General Mills, Frito Lay, Old Dutch
- Broadline Foodservice providers - Sysco, US Foods, Performance Food Group
- Regional/Local Foodservice providers – The Fish Guys, Swanson Meat, Ron Mar
- Transportation companies –refused or damaged product
- Retail donations – not Food Rescue – Cub, Party City
- Order fulfillment centers – Amazon, Door Dash, GoPuff

TYPES of Product

Prepared Foods

- Excess or leftover meals or meal components already prepared for consumption
- Ingredient products for meal preparation

Packaged Foods

- Donations too small to bring into Brooklyn Park inventory, < 4 pallets
- Mixed pallets of retail packed food and consumer goods, suitable for direct distribution to clients at food shelves
- Foodservice packed donations suitable for meal programs / onsite
- Nonfood items – paper products, clothing, packaging materials

School Districts Currently Using MealConnect

- Minneapolis Public Schools
- St. Paul Public Schools
- Edina Public Schools - Chartwells
- Osseo Public Schools
- Orono Public Schools
- Wayzata Public Schools
- White Bear Lake Public Schools
- Blake Schools

What are they donating?

- Close dated milk and other dairy products
- Short dated IW items like chips and cereals
- Pans of prepared entrees and sides – held frozen
- Partial cases of frozen product – like a sealed bag of chicken that came 4/case
- Bulk pack items that are close dated or not in menu rotation – one #10 can of baked beans
- Produce from commissary storage that won't make it into meals
- USDA bulk products
- Year end, spring break clean out of freezer, dry storage and cold storage

Where do these donations end up?

- Loaves and Fishes meal production sites
- Catholic Charities meal production sites and drop in centers
- Transitional Housing shelters like Women of Nations
- Homeless outreach – encampments
- Minnesota Central Kitchen for meal production and distribution
- Shelters like People Serving People
- Adult re-entry centers like Damascus Way
- Rehabilitation centers that serve in patient clients

Donation Prep and Cadence

- Short dated items should be posted ASAP
- Produce should be posted ASAP
- Re-heatable items should be cooled and then frozen in foil half pans with lids awaiting pickup
- Dry items can be posted whenever where storage exists
- Frozen items should be in cardboard cases when possible
- Some schools donate daily & weekly
- We suggest to consolidate smaller donations into near 100# size to make donations more appealing to agencies and volunteers delivering
- Year end and before breaks we ask to call 2HH (me) with a little heads up before mass posting to coordinate pickups

How does the "Real Time" donation process work?

- A donation is offered in MealConnect "Real Time" by a MealConnect registered donor
- MealConnect will match agencies according to agency profile
- For donations under 200 pounds, Volunteer Automation is activated for delivery
- Middle Mile Volunteer Food Rescue Drivers are contacted
- Agencies that have vehicles can also be notified for these smaller donations
- Larger donations are paired to appropriate Agency partners based on parameters you give us
- Agency "Users" are notified by phone, text and email and have 90 minutes to accept or decline
- Accepting or declining a donation can all be done on a smart phone
- Agencies can pick what day and time window they can receive or pickup if the donor allows
- Accepted donations arrive at agency, they weigh it to confirm donation size
- Create a receipt in MealConnect

Middle Mile Volunteer Food Rescue Driver

POSITION SUMMARY:

- You can help reduce waste & feed our hungry neighbors! Second Harvest Heartland has utilized MealConnect for the last year to successfully match donations from caterers, restaurants, bakeries, corporate cafeterias and special event centers to our network of agency partners--over 300 nonprofit and faith-based organizations who provide direct food support to people in their communities through a variety of programs including food shelves, free community meals, shelters, and more. Although demand for this food stream is high, a recurrent barrier for smaller meal program partners is a lack of staff, time, and transportation resources to collect the donations. We are looking for volunteers to help continue our successful recovery of prepared food throughout the Twin Cities metro area, and we need your help.

Volunteers are needed to transport food from donors to local agency partners. Volunteers will be trained in safe food transport practices and will be alerted to donation collection/delivery opportunities via their smartphone. Volunteers will have the option to accept or decline each opportunity based on their availability. Flexible opportunity with some weekday availability required. Volunteers will receive notifications through texts when a donation needs collecting, and volunteer can opt in/out.

DUTIES:

- Complete a program orientation and safe food transport training
- Download and monitor the MealConnect app to be aware of collection opportunities
- Collect food donations at designated donor locations and deliver to designated agency partner using the required volunteer collection materials provided
- Check and log food temperatures at both collection and delivery points
- Communicate with Second Harvest staff to provide feedback on individual donations and overall program
- Volunteers need to complete two delivery opportunities a month to stay connected with the program

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Access to own vehicle and current driver's license
- Smartphone with access to an internet browser and data available
- Willingness to assist people of diverse economic, social and ethnic backgrounds and uphold a non-judgmental, positive regard
- Ability to provide proof of motor vehicle insurance
- Willingness to complete a criminal background check and motor vehicle record check
- Ability to meet Second Harvest Heartland's guidelines for acceptable driving record and criminal background
- Willingness to complete mandatory training which includes program orientation, Civil Rights training and safe food transport training

What is there to lose?

- This is a FANO initiative, they have invested in a national PR media promotion of MealConnect across many mediums
- There is no minimum number of donations, nor is there a time requirement or cadence for donations
- Donations can be photo based and posted with a smartphone
- Donor can pick date and time donation is available for pickup
- Accepting or refusing a donation can all be done on a phone as well
- Agencies can pick what time window they can pickup if the donor allows

MealConnect

- Follow the link below for more information

<https://mealconnect.org>

Questions, Next steps, and Contact info

- Time permitting, we can take some questions, otherwise you can put them in the chat or email me
- You can reach me at:

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