



**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL**

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT
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September 27, 2013
Bulletin #P-14732-DSO/SFS

Contact:

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ACTION BY:
Various Dates

TO: All Principals and School Food Service Managers

FROM: Michael J. Burke, Chief Operating Officer *MJB*

SUBJECT: SOUL SOURCE PROJECT

The District's Wellness Promotion Task Force will continue to partner with the Palm Beach County (PBC) Food Bank for a second year. As a District, we will be collecting non-perishable food donations on an ongoing annual basis. Last school year, as a result of your efforts and generosity, the District donated approximately **5,377 pounds** of non-perishable food to the PBC Food Bank via the **Soul Source Project**.

In Palm Beach County, more than 170,000 residents are at or below poverty level. The 211 Crisis hotline has seen a 30% increase in the number of calls for food in the past year. More than 57% of our children in public schools receive free or reduced priced meals. Almost 193,000 individuals receive food stamps, a 300% increase since 2008.

The School Food Service (SFS) Managers will continue to act as the conduit for collecting, securing, and delivering the non-perishable food items. At the beginning of each collection month (schedule below), prior to the SFS in-service meetings, there will be communication promoting the collection of non-perishable foods. SFS Managers will bring the non-perishable foods to in-service for weigh-in and collection by the PBC Food Bank's staff.

- Each school should have a *Green Bin* and three reusable green bags which will be used to collect goods from the **Non-Perishable Food Items List** (*refer to attachment*).
- It is recommended that the *Green Bin* should be placed in the school cafeteria, or a designated accessible area approved by the principal, for food collection within the following time periods prior to the SFS in-service meetings:

- October 7 - 17, 2013
- February 3 - 14, 2014
- April 28 - May 8, 2014

The need in our community is great and the support of our school leaders, staff, and community will ensure that we accomplish helping the people in Palm Beach County.

Please refer to the attached document for detailed information on this valuable initiative.

We appreciate your support for the **Soul Source Project!**

EWG/MJB/SGB/AM/PT:pt/lm/jb
Attachment

Approved:



E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent

The School District of Palm Beach County's
Wellness Promotion Task Force &
Palm Beach County Food Bank presents...

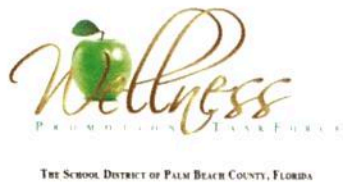
Soul Source Project... 

In Palm Beach County, there are over 175,000 residents who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - a 225% increase over the last three years. The 211 Crisis hotline has seen a 30% increase in the number of calls for food and over 55% of our children attending school receive free or reduced meal benefits. According to Feeding America, almost 17% of Palm Beach County residents often do not know where their next meal will come from.

In the county, there are more than 100 agencies that take on the responsibility of feeding the hungry. These agencies range from small churches that operate food pantries (distribution of canned goods) to larger soup kitchens that prepare at least one hot meal per day (like Boynton Beach Soup Kitchen or CROS Caring Kitchen, etc.). The Palm Beach County Food Bank is an organization that distributes to these agencies but the annual need is close to **35 million pounds** of food. Every agency that operates a feeding program is scrambling for food because the current supply is woefully inadequate to meet the need.

The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Quantum Foundation, the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Allegany Franciscan Ministries, United Way of Palm Beach County, the Lost Tree Village Charitable Foundation, and a number of other organizations, are supporting the growth and expansion of the Palm Beach County Food Bank.

Let's invest in our community's nutritional health through the *Soul Source Project...*



Non-Perishable Food Items List

Priority 1

- Canned Meats (Tuna, Salmon, Chicken)
- Peanut Butter (smallest containers)
- Canned Soups
- Canned Stews and Chili
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruits
- Canned Pasta (Spaghetti "O's")
- Canned Juices
- Canned Beans

Priority 2

- Tomato Sauce
- Pasta (Macaroni & Cheese, etc.)
- Hot/Cold Cereals
- Cereal Bars
- Rice
- Beans (pinto, black beans)
- Dry Soups

Please No Perishable or Glass Items

**The School District of Palm Beach County, Florida
Wellness Promotion Task Force**

"Soul Source Project"

**Food Collection Instructions for the
School Food Service (SFS) Managers**

The need for food in our community is great and we need your support. Please assist us with the following food collection procedures:

- Each school will receive a *Green Bin* and three Reusable Bags which will be used to collect goods from the **Non-Perishable Food Items List**.
- A *Green Bin* should **ONLY** be placed in an accessible area in the school cafeteria, or in a designated accessible area per principal, for food collection within the following time periods *prior to the SFS in-service*:
 - October 7-17, 2013
 - February 3-14, 2014
 - April 28 – May 8, 2014
- Once the *Green Bin* is filled with the non-perishable food donations, please place items in the Reusable Bags provided and bring to the SFS in-service meetings at Royal Palm Beach Community High School on the dates below:
 - Friday, October 18, 2013
 - Tuesday, February 18, 2014
 - Friday, May 9, 2014
- At each SFS Department in-service meeting, the Palm Beach County (PBC) Food Bank will:
 - Have staff on hand to collect the non-perishable food donations prior to the meeting;
 - Weigh non-perishable food donations to determine amount collected;
 - Transfer non-perishable food from Reusable Bags to PBC Food Bank truck;
 - Return the Reusable Bags to each SFS Manager; and
 - Distribute donated non-perishable food to agencies in the county.

