

Branches prepare for May food drive

The largest single-day food drive in the nation is quickly approaching. With just two months to go until the May 11 event, time is running out for branches to register to guarantee that postcards will be delivered in time to distribute to our customers. Registration is simple and requires only a few minutes. Branch presidents simply visit the NALC website at nalc.org, log into the Members Only portal, select the “Stamp Out Hunger” Food Drive icon, enter the requested information listed under each tab, and click “Complete Registration.” Branch presidents have the option to designate a local food drive coordinator, who will then gain access to the food drive database via their Members Only portal and will be able to register the branch.

To designate a local coordinator, branch presidents should: select the “Coordinators” tab, click “Add Coordinator” and a dialog box will appear, click “Member Search,” key in the member’s last name, double-click the member’s name to select and click “Submit Search.” Click the “Submit” button when the dialog box from the previous page appears and auto populates with the member’s information. The local coordinator will then have access to the food drive database via the Members Only portal.

The registration deadline to receive postcards is March 24. Any branch that registers after the deadline will not be guaranteed postcards. Branch registration will remain open without postcard guarantee until April 22. If a branch has questions, please visit nalc.org/toolkit to find contact information for your regional or state coordinator who will be able to provide assistance.

Hunger exists in every community in the country, and each year food banks depend on letter carriers to help replenish the shelves in the communities we serve. Food drive bags delivered to customers to use for making their donations have been proven to significantly increase the

total amount of food collected. If a branch needs assistance with finding bag sponsors, volunteers, distributing the food, etc., the branch should first reach out to its regional or state coordinator.

Branches are then encouraged to visit unitedway.org/find-your-united-way to find contact information for their local United Way. Often, United Way can help branches find local food pantries, coordinate distribution of food, and find sponsors for bags. The most common sponsors for bags are local grocery stores. Other partners who may be able to assist include the AFL-CIO, Kellanova and the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW). You can find your local UFCW by visiting ufcw.org/members/find-your-local. Please be mindful of the bag deadlines posted at nalc.org/toolkit under the heading “Important information for coordinators.”

Getting the word out is essential to the success of the food drive. Once the branch is registered, the food drive coordinator should visit nalc.org/toolkit to review the coordinator’s manual and order merchandise. Wearing food drive T-shirts; putting out lawn signs; hanging posters and flyers inside banks, apartment complexes, churches or grocery stores; working with apartment complexes to send out community emails; and sharing information on social media will help boost community support and improve the outcome of the food drive.

From letter carriers to postal customers to volunteers, anyone can order merchandise from the Frank Doolittle Company or online from the Stamp Out Hunger® store at stampouthungerstore.com. To ensure timely delivery of merchandise, please order before the deadlines listed on the food drive website under the heading “Buy your official Stamp Out Hunger merchandise online.” Food drive posters can be ordered by branch presidents or coordinators via the food drive database located on the Members Only portal. All



poster orders and payments must be received at NALC Headquarters by April 22. Orders received after the deadline will not be guaranteed delivery prior to the food drive.

NALC Headquarters’s social media team and the Department of Communications and Media Relations, along with our national partners, will continue spreading the word and raising awareness for the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Remember to follow the food drive’s official social media accounts on Facebook at facebook.com/StampOutHunger and on X (formerly known as Twitter) at [@StampOutHunger](https://twitter.com/StampOutHunger) to stay up to date and to learn more about NALC’s national partners. To find or send messages about the food drive on either platform, use [#StampOutHunger](https://twitter.com/StampOutHunger).

The Letter Carriers’ Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, which is held annually on the second Saturday in May, is rapidly approaching. Regional and state coordinators are available to help. More information about the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive can be found online at nalc.org/food.

Thank you for continuing the fight to Stamp Out Hunger! **PR**