

**BAKERSFIELD**  
**PET FOOD PANTRY**  
EST. 2009



## PET FOOD DRIVE

### STARTER KIT



Sometimes the difference between a pet staying with its family and ending up at a shelter is a bag of food . . .

**Thank You!**

## Why do a pet food drive?

Most communities have a homeless pet problem and ours is no different. In January 2014, the Kern County Animal Shelter took in 104 owner surrendered cats and 94 owner surrendered dogs. The number of pets who became homeless via relinquishment and abandonment increased because of the economic downturn, foreclosures and joblessness.

*Some families who are struggling financially will see their pets as extra mouths to feed and will therefore decide to let them go. On the other hand, some people will choose to go hungry themselves in an effort to keep their pets. By providing temporary assistance with pet food removes one potential reason for families considering relinquishing or abandoning their pets, and will help people keep the pets they love. Every day that these families can feed their pets is one more day those pets stay at home*

**Thank You for coordinating a pet food collection drive to benefit the Bakersfield Pet Food Pantry.** Collected food will be distributed to people in our community who are struggling to feed their pets.

**Below are steps to a Successful Collection Drive.**

### Step One: Choose a Location

Pick a location for donors to drop off food donations. The most successful collections occur at businesses that sell pet food. It is especially helpful if you are there in person asking people to donate. Here are some location suggestions:

- ✘ Pet Food supply store
- ✘ Grocery Store
- ✘ Agricultural supply store
- ✘ Your place of business
- ✘ Your school
- ✘ Your place of worship
- ✘ Local business
- ✘ Fire Department
- ✘ Veterinarians Office

*Always ask permission from the manager or school administrator to collect donations. If your food collection is open to the public, let BFPF know so the drop-off location can be advertised on our website and social media*

## Step Two: Set a Time Frame

### Questions you should ask yourself:

When will the food collection drive start?

How long would I like the collection to last?

## Step Three: Set a Goal

How many animals would you like to feed?

Setting a goal will help your supporters visualize the number of pets you are hoping to help. For example, 30 pounds of dog food will feed one dog or three cats for a month. If you collect 300 pounds of food, you will be helping 10 dogs, or 30 cats.

## Step Four: Contact us

Once a location has been chosen, a time-frame, and goal for your food drive, contact the Pet Food Pantry to let us know all about your plans. If your collection is open to the public it can be advertised on the BFPF Facebook page and our website. You can also arrange a time to pick up promotional supplies. BFPF can provide you with brochures/flyers, and collection bins. Contact Cindy at 661-369-1222 to make arrangements.

## Step Five: Advertise Your Pet Food Drive

*The most important part of holding a successful food drive is getting the word out.*

Here are some ideas to market your collection.

Promote in person! If you're collecting at a local business, make arrangements with the manager to come in person to hand out flyers to their customers.

Post flyers in public areas. You can make copies of our flyers, or you can create your own. Make sure to include the drop-off location and time frame for your collection.

Contact your local newspaper. They may be able to run a free story or ad about your collection drive to encourage people to donate.

Use social media. Get the word out on Facebook. Send status updates to let your friends and family know how close you are to reaching your goal.

## Step Six: Complete the Collection Drive Wrap-Up Form attached.

Please complete the attached form and bring it with you when you drop off your donation. The form asks for your contact information, and for a tally of the volume of food you've collected for us.

## Step Seven: Drop-Off Your Donations

Once you've completed your collection, contact us to make arrangements to drop-off your donation. Contact the Volunteer Service Director at 661 369-1222 to make arrangements for a drop-off time. Please be sure to return any bins and signs you have borrowed, along with the Collection Drive Wrap-Up form, when you drop off your donations.

### Additional Considerations:

Consider collecting monetary donations along with pet food. BFPF can accept cash as well as checks made out to the Bakersfield Pet Food Pantry. Donations will support the Pantry's food and/or our current programs.

If you prefer to hold a fundraiser rather than a collection drive, that is fine, too! Some ideas include a car wash, bake sale, yard sale, penny drive or come up with your own.



# BAKERSFIELD PET FOOD PANTRY

## Pet Food Drive Wrap-Up Form



**Please complete this form and return it when you drop off your food donation.**

Name of food drive coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of food collection drive \_\_\_\_\_

Location where food was collected? \_\_\_\_\_

Food Collection Totals:

**Please use this table to record the totals of food collected, including any monetary donations you also received.**

Lbs. of dry dog food	
Lbs. of dry cat food	
# of cans of dog food	
# of cans of cat food	
# of boxes of dog treats	
# of boxes of cat treats	
Monetary donation	
Miscellaneous	

How did you hear about our need for pet food donation drives? \_\_\_\_\_

May we thank you publicly for your efforts? (Ex. Our Facebook page, website, yearly letter,

Etc.) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your efforts and support to help keep pets in their loving homes  
and out of our overcrowded shelters.**