

## **Fighting Hunger Service Project – Troop FAQ**

### **General Questions**

#### **1. What is the Fighting Hunger Service Project?**

- The Fighting Hunger Service Project is a service project where Girl Scouts collect non-perishable food donations from their communities and donate them to local food banks and pantries.

#### **2. When does the campaign take place?**

- Troops will begin hanging door hangers in their neighborhoods and passing out flyers to local businesses in April to inform the community about the service project. The official pick-up date for donations is May 3. Troops must submit their impact reports via WuFoo by May 12.

#### **3. Who can participate?**

- Any Girl Scout troop within Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland can participate.

#### **4. How do we participate?**

- If your troop would like to participate, please let your Community Volunteer Engagement Specialist know, and they will provide information, door hangers, and flyers for businesses.

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### **Materials & Distribution**

#### **5. What materials will troops receive?**

- Troops who sign up will receive:
  - Door hangers to distribute in their neighborhoods, asking for food donations.
  - Flyers to distribute to local businesses inviting them to join the cause.

#### **6. How will we receive these materials?**

- Flyers and door hangers will be distributed through Community Volunteer Engagement Specialists and available for pick-up in early April.

#### **7. How many door hangers will we get?**

- Troops should estimate how many they will need based on the number of homes they plan to reach. Additional materials can be requested if needed.

#### **8. Where should door hangers be placed?**

- Door hangers should only be placed on doors. It is illegal to place flyers, advertisements, or any unmarked material in a mailbox. Mailboxes are reserved for postage-paid U.S. mail.

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### **Donation Collection**

#### **9. What types of food can we collect?**

- Please collect non-perishable, unexpired food items. A suggested donation list is included on the back of the door hangers and includes items such as:
  - Canned vegetables, fruits, and beans
  - Peanut butter and jelly
  - Rice and pasta
  - Canned soups and stews
  - Cereal and oatmeal
  - Shelf-stable milk

#### **10. Where should we take the donations?**

- Troops can choose where to donate the food within their local community. A list of recommended community partners will be provided, but troops may also choose their own donation location.

#### **11. Can people donate money instead of food?**

- This campaign focuses on food donations. If someone would like to contribute financially, we encourage them to donate directly to a local food bank, pantry, or Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland.

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### **Tracking & Reporting**

#### **12. How do we report our troop's participation?**

- Troops will submit a report by **May 12** via form (QR code will be on the flyer). The form will ask for:
  - Number of Girl Scouts and adults who participated
  - Where donations were taken
  - Total volunteer hours (example: 10 participants x 10 hours = 100 hours)
  - Weight of donated food

**13. Do donations from the Cookie Cupboard count?**

- Yes! Cookie Cupboard donations will be tracked separately.
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**Patches & Recognition**

**14. Will participating Girl Scouts receive a patch?**

- Yes! Every Girl Scout who participates and submits an impact report will receive the Fighting Hunger patch as recognition.

**15. When will patches be distributed?**

- Patches will be ordered after the campaign ends and are expected to be distributed by May 23.

**16. How will patches be sent to troops?**

- Patches will be mailed to troops after all reports are collected and verified.
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**Additional Questions**

**17. Can businesses and non-Girl Scouts participate?**

- Yes! Businesses, workplaces, and community organizations can organize their own food drives in partnership with Girl Scouts. They will receive a flyer with details and can also earn a patch by submitting a report.

**18. How can we make this project special for our troops?**

- Consider making it a fun troop activity by decorating collection boxes, decorating wagons for food pickup, or taking photos to share with Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland.

### 19. How can we thank donors?

- Showing gratitude is an important part of this project—and a great way for Girl Scouts to practice kindness and leadership.

We encourage all participating troops to thank the individuals and families who donate. Here are a few simple ways to show appreciation:

- **Leave a handwritten thank-you note** with the collected items
- **Attach a thank-you Post-it** to their donation
- **Create small “thank you” cards** to hand out during pick-up
- **Make signs or posters** to display during collection day

### 20. Who do we contact if we have more questions?

- More information will be available through Community Volunteer Engagement Specialists, or you can reach out to [info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsmoheartland.org).