



Food Drive

Get ready — it's almost time for the third annual Food From the Bar food drive and the second annual exciting hunger luncheon. Mark your calendars now for the food drive to be held May 9-20. Further information on the hunger luncheon kicking off Food From the Bar will be in your Bar Association mailings.

Last year's food drive was extremely successful. More than 40 firms participated and 4,100 pounds of food and over \$15,000 were collected for the Contra Costa Food Bank. Although the donations were considered extremely

generous, because the food bank distributes over 19,000 pounds of food per day to hungry persons in our county, our donations barely fed our county's hungry for one day. We can do even better this year if every law office in the county participates in Food From the Bar.

Start planning now. Many offices are putting together special incentives to encourage participation. A few ideas to help you on your way are:

- Send several people from your office to the hunger luncheon, then have a short meeting upon their return so they can tell others about the things they heard, learned and experienced about hunger in our county.
- Set up a contest rewarding those who donated the most food and/or money with prizes such as theater tickets, sporting event tickets, gift certificates, "donation dollars" which the person can spend on one free hour off work (to come in late, leave early or extend lunchtime).

- Have a party or a barbecue and require all guests to bring canned foods.

- Take everyone in your office on a field trip to the grocery store or Price Club to buy canned foods, then treat them to ice cream or frozen yogurt afterwards.

- Split your office or your building into teams and plan an event at the end of the drive where the team that donated the most food and money is treated to refreshments or dinner by the other team.

This year, for the first time, the Contra Costa Food Bank will deliver food barrels to the participants who are unable to pick up at the food bank. Barrels also will be placed in the Bar Association offices for those who wish to participate, but do not think they can fill a barrel or who do not have the office space for a barrel. So there's no reason why you cannot participate! Start planning now and keep a lookout for sign-ups for the hunger luncheon and the food drive. ★