



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FOOD DONORS

- 1 All food requiring refrigeration must be chilled down to a minimum of 40 degrees or frozen before Island Harvest volunteers or staff can pick it up. We cannot pick up food that requires refrigeration if it is warm or hot.
- 2 Please leave food in the refrigerator/freezer until the Island Harvest volunteer or staff arrives to pick up the food. Leaving it out on the counter until a volunteer arrives may increase the temperature of the food to more than 40 degrees which places it in the DANGER ZONE. We cannot pick up food that requires refrigeration if it has a temperature higher than 40 degrees.
- 3 All food must be packed in sanitized or single use containers that are approved for food storage. When using aluminum trays, please use ½ size rather than full size, as these fit into our coolers. Bakery items should be packed in FDA approved bags or containers. **Garbage bags must never be used to store food that will be used for human consumption.**
- 4 Island Harvest volunteers are not approved food handlers, therefore, they are not permitted to pack, wrap or rewrap items.
- 5 Please be sure to only donate food that is fit for human consumption and that has a shelf life of at least two days. A good guideline is not to donate food if you wouldn't eat it yourself or feed it to your children.
- 6 We transport food needing refrigeration in coolers using blue ice. Therefore, it is important for us to know the approximate amount of food to be picked up so we can send the proper amount of coolers. Any food requiring refrigeration that does not fit into the coolers requires pre-arrangement for the pick up at that time.
- 7 A refrigerated truck is available for large pick-ups.
- 8 Our volunteers and staff are not permitted to accept free food for their own personal use.
- 9 If you do not have a regularly scheduled pick up and are on an "As Called" basis please give as much notice as possible so we can schedule a volunteer or staff person.
- 10 Island Harvest is open Monday – Friday 9am-5pm.
- 11 For more information contact: (631) 873-4775