



# GIVE A HELPING HAND MEAL DONATIONS

## YMCA VAN BUREN CENTER



### PROVIDE A MEAL

Provide a meal for our guests at Van Buren.

300 meals Breakfast  
250 meals Lunch  
300 meals Dinner



### GIVE FUNDS FOR A MEAL

Give funds to sponsor a meal for our guests at Van Buren.

\$300 Continental Breakfast  
\$500 Lunch  
\$750 Dinner



### DONATE FOOD ITEMS

Donate non-perishable meals and snacks for our guests. Our kitchen provides our guests with diabetic and pregnancy snacks.

## OVERVIEW

The Van Buren Center provides emergency shelter to 600 individuals each night. Each day our kitchen works diligently to cook and serve 3 meals a day for the families, women, and men in our shelter. We rely on donations and volunteers in order to make this happen.

## HOW ELSE CAN YOU HELP?

Help us ensure our guests have access to healthy and nutritious meals by volunteering to help serve a meal. Dinner service volunteer opportunities are available 7 days a week from 5 pm-7 pm. Meal prep volunteer opportunities are also available!

## CONTACT US



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# MEAL DONATION REQUIREMENTS

## MEAL TIMES

### SINGLE ADULT SHELTER

Breakfast: 7:00 am-7:45 am  
Lunch: 12:15 pm-1:00 pm  
Dinner: 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

### FAMILY SHELTER

#### Monday-Friday

Breakfast: 6:00 am-6:45 am  
Lunch: 11:15-12:00 pm  
Dinner: 6:15 pm-7:15 pm

#### Saturday-Sunday

Breakfast: 8:00 am-8:45 am  
Lunch: 11:15 am-12:00 pm  
Dinner: 6:15 pm-7:15 pm



Food safety is our highest priority and ensuring that donated food meets basic standards keeps our guests safe. We ask that food prepared off-site meet the following requirements and will be turned away if our staff has concerns.

## Meal donation requirements of food preparation off-site

- ✓ Hot foods need to be kept at a minimum temperature of 140 degrees.
- ✓ Cold foods need to be kept at a minimum of 40 degrees or below.
- ✓ Wash hands often and use good personal hygiene practices. Do not cook or prepare food if you or someone in your family is sick.
- ✓ **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS- NO PORK.** If your dish includes nuts, or nut products (including peanut oil or peanut butter) please provide an alternative.
- ✓ Menu and food items for meal donation must be provided to the Volunteer Coordinator prior to the donation date. Meal donation will not be confirmed until these details and other necessary information is provided.
- ✓ Volunteers must arrive onsite at least an hour before meal service start time.

The Van Buren Center reserves the right to cancel or deny meal donations if they do not meet these conditions or any other health and safety standards.

## FOODS THAT CAN BE DONATED:

- Hot food that was not served to a guest and kept at temperature and/or cooled properly (entrees, soups, etc.)
- Cold food that was not served to a guest and kept at temperature (sandwiches, yogurt parfaits, salads, etc.)
- Beverages (juice, bottled water, lemonade, tea, etc.)
- Package items (dry pasta, canned vegetables, pudding, etc.)

## FOODS THAT CANNOT BE DONATED:

- Previously served food such as from a buffet or food that has been served to a guest and returned to the business.
- Distressed foods (that have been in a flood, fire, smoke, or have started to spoil).
- Food in sharply dented or rusty cans
- Food in opened or torn containers exposing the food to potential contamination.
- Food that has been compromised during transport or that is not packaged properly.

**If food cannot be delivered at the proper temperature or is adulterated or compromised at any time, it must be composted or discarded.**