

PRESS KIT March 6, 2017

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#### Introduction

Thank you for your interest in #GiveHealthy: The Great American Food Drive.

This Press Kit is intended to provide information about #GiveHealthy, its history, its partners and its mission to disrupt the most popular form of giving the United States – donating food.

The story of the campaign involves civil society, the food system, health, technology, social and cultural trends, all bearing on a movement designed to improve the lives of the 40 to 50 Million people who lack access to healthy food.

For more information, please contact:

Patrick O'Neill #GiveHealthy Pat@givehealthy.org 973-202-6637

For other contacts - see Founding Partners, pages 9 and 10

### Press Release, March 6 2017

# #GiveHealthy: The Great American Healthy Food Drive

A Movement to emphasize Hunger as a Health Issue

#GiveHealthy is a national food drive designed to solve a big problem.

Donating food to food drives is one of the most popular forms of giving in the US. More people donate food than watch the Super Bowl each year. It's great that so many people want to help by donating food.

However, traditional food drives are limited to non-perishable donations, often highly processed, nutrient deficient food. The 42 Million+ people struggling with food insecurity also face high rates of diet related health issues – things like obesity, diabetes, cancer – due to a lack of access to healthy food. What they really need is healthy food.

#GiveHealthy provides an easy way for people to donate fresh fruits, fresh vegetables and other healthy food so that people struggling with hunger get the kind of food they really need. It's also designed to heighten public awareness that hunger is a health issue and to get people thinking about the kind of food they should donate.

#GiveHealthy starts in March with a two month awareness phase during which groups can join the campaign as a partner, an ambassador or to sponsor their own #GiveHealthy food drive. Hunger organizations can join the campaign as well. The donation phase of the campaign will run from the beginning to the end of May. Healthy food deliveries will be made in June and July to hunger organizations across the country.

#GiveHealthy is made possible, in part, by a new food drive system based upon technology and supply chain management developed by Amp Your Good. Instead of donating food by bringing canned goods to a collection box, people select food to donate from a list of curated healthy food items based upon data supplied by hunger organizations. They purchase these food items online via a standard e-commerce checkout process and the food is delivered directly to the hunger organizations once the drive is over.

#GiveHealthy was developed by a group of organizations working towards getting healthier food to those who lack access to it. These Founding Partners include Wholesome Wave, WhyHunger, Foodtank, Ashley Koff Approved and Amp Your Good. National Partners include The

Center for Science in the Public Interest, Cancer Schmancer, Change Food and many others. The campaign also has a set of notable Health, Education, Hunger and Media partners.

#GiveHealthy is guided by an <u>Advisory Board</u> well versed in the complex issues affecting hunger – food system, nutrition, health, food policy and food access.

The ambition of the campaign is disrupt the most popular form of giving in the US, donating food, so that people donate the kind of food that will have the most positive impact - healthy food.

Visit www.givehealthy.org for more info.

# **How #GiveHealthy Works**



Donors select the hunger they want to support and the food they want to donate to them from a curated list of #GiveHealthy food items.

Donors purchase the food for the purpose of donating it via a standard e-commerce transaction.



Once the #GiveHealthy donation period is over, the food donations for each hunger organization are compiled and ordered from a local food distributor for direct delivery to the hunger organizations. Delivery will be made in June and July 2017.



The hunger organization accepts the food items and prepares to distribute. Unlike traditional food drives, 100% of the food matches what they hunger organization needs so there's no need to sort the food and nothing to throw away.



Hunger organizations schedule distribution of healthy food items to the people in their communities suffering from food insecurity.

#### **Fact Sheet**

#### **Facts about Food Insecurity:**

- 42 million Americans are food insecure, including 1 out of every 4 children
- 36% of Americans are Obese a 3X increase since 1960
- 29 Million Americans suffer from Type 2 diabetes an 8X increase since 1960

#### Facts about the 2017 #GiveHealthy, The Great American Food Drive

Who? Founding National Partners - FoodTank, Wholesome Wave,

WhyHunger, Ashley Koff Approved, Amp Your Good

What? The largest healthy food drive in America

Where? Everywhere in the US

When? Campaign Awareness period: Mar/April 2017,

Donation period: May 2017

Food Delivery period: June/July 2017

Why? Because hunger is a health issue

# **#GiveHealthy Background**

In 2016, a group of people and organizations banded together to take on a problem worth fixing. How to take the most common form of giving in the United States and turn it from a negative into a positive?

Food drives have been an established group activity for a long time. Beginning in the 1880's to support those displaced by the Industrial Revolution, they became an important way for Civil Society to address hunger during the Great Depression. With the development of Food Banks in the 1960's, food drives were more generally popularized as critical source of food stuff for Food Banks. A wide variety of groups began sponsoring food drives – schools, faith based and civic organizations, companies, teams and many others.

With the advent of the Great Recession and the dramatic rise in the numbers of people struggling with food insecurity, these kinds of organizations sponsored an increasing number of food drives. However, since the Great Recession, there has been growing recognition of the connection between diet and health, and specifically, the connection between food insecurity, lack of access to healthy food and increased diet related health issues.

Despite a variety of efforts, it's been challenging to improve the quality of food that people donate. Traditional food drives, limited to non-perishable food donations, combined with historical donation behavior, continue to produce large quantities of food not suitable for people struggling with diet related health issues.

The #GiveHealthy Founding Partners decided to engage a wide variety of organizations and people to create a movement that is designed to change the kind of food people donate. By making it easy to donate apples, carrots and other healthy food in lieu of non-perishable canned and boxed goods, #GiveHealthy hopes to quickly shift the food items people donate to food drives so that people facing hunger get the kind of food they really need.

# **#GiveHealthy Founding Partners**

The #GiveHealthy movement is made possible by the collective and individual efforts of many organizations and people who recognize the value of changing what food drives can do.

#### **Foodtank**

foodtank.org



Food Tank is focused on building a global community for safe, healthy, nourished eaters. We spotlight environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable ways of alleviating hunger, obesity, and poverty and create networks of people, organizations, and content to push for food system change.

For more info contact:
Bernard Pollack Chairman, Food Tank
bernard@foodtank.com
312-843-8612

#### **Wholesome Wave**

wholesomewave.org

# Wholesome Wave

Wholesome Wave empowers under-served consumers to make healthier food choices by:

- Increasing affordable access to fresh, local, and regional food
- Increasing the value of food stamps and other nutrition benefits when spent on fruits and veaetables
- Creating market opportunities and improve bottom lines for farmers and grocery stores nationwide

For more info contact:

Fiona McBride, Senior Communications Associate, Wholesome Wave fiona@wholesomewave.org 617-827-0046

#### **Why Hunger**

whyhunger.org



WhyHunger is a leader in building the movement to end hunger and poverty by connecting people to nutritious, affordable food and by supporting grassroots solutions that inspire self-reliance and community. WhyHunger aims to put an end the hunger suffered by 49MM Americans.

For more info contact:
Debbie Grunbaum, Senior Director of Communications

<u>Debbie@whyhunger.org</u>

212-629-0853

### Ashley Koff, R.D.

www.ashleykoffapproved.com



Ashley Koff, RD brings her Better Nutrition approach to thousands of patients, organizations, and clients. An award-winning nutrition expert, she is a frequent contributor on the Dr. Oz show and other media such as ABC News, Fox News, The New York Times, and the Washington Post.

For more info contact:
Ashley Koff, R.D., Founder
ashleykoffapproved@gmail.com

#### **Amp Your Good**

ampyourgood.com



Amp Your Good developed a new way of running food drives called Crowd-Feeding to address limitations of traditional food drives: non-perishable food only, unwanted or inappropriate donations, and lots of moving cans and boxes around. Combining e-commerce ordering with an efficient network for healthy and fresh food delivery has enabled the #GiveHealthy approach for the modern food drive.

# **#GiveHealthy Advisory Board**

The #GiveHealthy Advisory Board consists of a diverse set of members with deep experience in nutrition, health, food access, food system challenges, food policy, education and hunger organization operations.

**Michael Jacobson, Ph.D.**, Founder and Executive Director, The Center for Science in the Public Interest

**Ashley Koff, RD** - Founder of Ashley Koff Approved. Award winning Nutrition Expert

**Danielle Nierenberg**, Founder and President of Food Tank

Michel Nischan, Founder and CEO, Wholesome Wave

Robyn O'Brien, Founder, Do Good

**Charles Platkin, Ph.D., J.D., MPH**, Director of NY City Food Policy Center at Hunter College

Andrew Schiff, President, Rhode Island Community Food Bank

Noreen Springstead, Executive Director, WhyHunger

**Arlin Wasserman**, Founder and Partner, Changing Tastes

**Ryan Shadrick Wilson**, **J.D.**, former Chief Strategy Office and General Counsel - Partnership for a Healthier America

### **Quote Sheet**

"We're thrilled to be part of the #GiveHealthy Food Drive."

Danielle Nierenberg, President Foodtank

"I want to help create a better world, and doing my part means helping everyone get and keep their better health."

Ashley Koff, RD
Ashley Koff Approved (AKA)

"There's no doubt that hunger is a health issue.

#GiveHealthy is a great way to engage people to
make a better difference with a healthy food donation
and to think the challenges causing hunger."

Noreen Springsteed, Executive Director WhyHunger

"Affordable, healthy, local food for all!"

Michel Nischan, Founder and CEO Wholesome Wave

"With Crowd-Feeding, people facing hunger can now get the food they really need."

Pat O'Neill, CEO Amp Your Good