

Family Table Suggestions for Collecting Food Donations at Your Site



- Work with religious schools, pre-schools, day and afternoon schools to encourage participation in collections. Speak with the school educator about devoting time to learn about JF&CS Family Table and how students can help.
- Rotate responsibility of collecting items through different classes/groups each week or month. Have a collection contest to see which class or group can collect the most products for the month.
- Create a “cover charge” for synagogue, sisterhood, or school events: entrance fee can be one of the products your group collects for JF&CS Family Table.
- At meetings or in front of large gatherings: “sell” pre-purchased collection items so that people can donate it to your monthly collection. (Not only will collections be enhanced, but by charging a little more than you paid for each product, you will have a Family Table “kitty” that you can use to fill in items when your collections run short.)
- Make bags with flyers about JF&CS Family Table available at a variety of events or services. Have people take home an empty bag to fill and return to collection site.
- Have Bar/Bat Mitzvah families rotate the responsibility for delivering collections to JF&CS Family Table pantry in Waltham.
- Recruit and train Bar/Bat Mitzvah students to assist in helping to get the word out to Hebrew and Sunday School classes about the mitzvah of donating food to, and volunteering at, Family Table distribution day.
- Encourage synagogue and school leadership (Boards, Social Action Committee, Brotherhood, Sisterhood, and Youth Groups) to set an example by getting involved and by encouraging them to ask for donations of food items at their events or meetings.

- Publicize your synagogue's partnership with JF&CS Family Table in bulletins, newsletters, and emails. Include information about the products you regularly collect, the location of collection bins, and the date volunteers are needed to participate in your Temple's scheduled Distribution Day.
- Invite a JF&CS Family Table representative to address your group about Family Table and to provide educational information about hunger in our community.
- Create and decorate tzedakah boxes to collect cash donations for JF&CS Family Table. This can be done in classrooms, meetings, and events. Use collected funds to purchase food products to be donated to Family Table.
- Ask your rabbi to do a sermon on hunger in the local Jewish community and ask him or her to mention the collection for Family Table

Remember! Never hesitate to call our Family Table staff at 781-693-5593 if you have questions or need help.

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