

Letter to the editor – Food Drive

How many bags of food does it take to help feed the hungry? Just one. Thanks to residents in Alma, Barling, Fort Smith, Greenwood, Huntington, Mansfield and Van Buren who, on May 12, filled a bag of nonperishable foods and placed it by their mailboxes and collectively provided more than 33,000 pounds of food for people in need.

Thanks to:

- NALC Branch #399 for sponsoring the drive.
- Our local letter carriers for the time and effort they gave in making this year's drive a great success.
- Community Services Clearinghouse who organized the involvement of the food pantries.
- Fort Smith Public Schools that participated this year. Leading the schools was Sutton Elementary collecting more than 1,200 pounds of food.
- Twenty-one local food pantries that provided volunteers who helped load and box the food to be taken to area food pantries.
- Papa John's Pizza, Home Run Pizza, Pizza Hut, Eureka Pizza and Geno's Pizza for donating pizza for the volunteers.
- Inland Container for donating boxes in which to load the items and Abilities Unlimited for distributing the boxes to the post offices.
- Our media partners for "getting the word out."

You made this food drive successful. It comes at a time when school children will soon be out for the summer and more requests for food are received at the food banks.

I appreciate you taking the time to do what you could and assure you that your contribution will make a difference for those in need

Angela Tilley
Executive Director
United Way of Fort Smith Area