



Scouts of Pack 310 collecting and organizing food items for the hungry.

# THE GIFT OF GIVING

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The holidays are coming up more quickly than some of us want to admit. At the same time, the demand on emergency food in Idaho continues to rise just as quickly. Last year, The Idaho Food bank distributed a record 18,436 holiday meats (turkeys, hams and chickens) statewide. This year, homeless shelters are already full, and requests for food are up 30% this year. The demand for turkeys will undoubtedly be higher than in previous years.

There are many ways you can give back to our community during this time of year. Help others in need with what you can give.

### Turkey Box Drive

For many, Thanksgiving brings thoughts of family, friends, and a smorgasbord of food. For others, this holiday is spent battling hunger, cold and depression. Bring joy to the less fortunate by donating to the 9th Annual Turkey Box Drive of SE Idaho. They hope to deliver at least 350 complete Thanksgiving Dinners to the less fortunate this year. The boxes are delivered complete with all the Thanksgiving Dinner trimmings including a turkey, potatoes, gravy, stuffing, vegetables, yams,

cranberry sauce and pie. When the Turkey Box Drive first started, they delivered 75 boxes. The next year they delivered 150 boxes. Last year they delivered 395 boxes. Monetary donations can be made to the "Turkey Box Fund" account at any Bank of Idaho location. Or, stop by Premier Insurance located on North Skyline Drive in Idaho Falls. If you have any questions, please contact Mandy Searle at 522-1260. Thank you to Premier Insurance, Bank of Idaho, Paul Davis Restoration and Eagle Eye Farms for making this food drive possible.

### Idaho Food Bank

It's been a tough year for food banks across the state as job losses led to an increased need and corporate cutbacks resulted in a major dip in donations. A special report by the Association of Food Banks suggests, among other things, that demand has jumped as much as 30% on average during the recession. The results are of serious concern to the Idaho Food Bank. Food banks are under tremendous pressure due to growing unemployment, continually increasing food prices and rising demand.

The need for food bank services is higher now at a time when many food banks are receiving fewer corporate and individual donations. Your local food bank needs your donations now to be able to fulfill the demands of the holidays.

#### Here are a few ways you can help:

- Make a donation at any food bank or food bank event.
- Hold a "Take Your Turkey to Work" or "Canned Food" drive at your place of business.
- Buy an extra turkey or two and donate it to your local food bank. If you would like to donate, please go to [www.idahofoodbank.org](http://www.idahofoodbank.org) to find a donation center near you.

### Scouting For Food

On October 24th, the annual Scouting for Food Drive was held throughout Southeast Idaho. Scouting for Food is part of a series of food drives, resulting in thousands of food items being delivered to local food shelves to support and help those who need a little help putting food on the table. Boy scouts and cub scouts from the Grand Teton Council came together in an effort to help collect canned goods and non-perishable food for the hungry. The food drive was a great success. Scouts of the Grand Teton Council collected 449,741 food items this year. This year's donations increased by almost 25,000 food items over 2008. The Scouting for Food project is over, but it's not too late to donate to your local food bank. If you would like to donate, please go to [www.idahofoodbank.org](http://www.idahofoodbank.org) to find a donation center near you..

### The Haven Shelter

The Haven Shelter needs your donations. 40% of their budget comes from community members. Whether it is a can of soup, monetary donations, clothing, school supplies, personal care items, everything is used for their families.

The Haven offers assistance to families and single women who want to make changes toward more productive living. The Haven Shelter is a safe drug/alcohol free environment where single woman and families can start life over again and work on being self-sufficient. While at the Haven, residents are required to get jobs and attend meetings and classes to improve parenting skills and independence. Each resident is encouraged to gain as much education as possible to increase their chances of succeeding in society. The Haven does not take a band-aid approach to homelessness. The average stay for families is eight to twelve months. When people leave there, they are well prepared not to end up in this situation again. They are stable, tax-paying members of our community. The majority remain in permanent housing. Everyone is given the same opportunity; whether they choose to take advantage of it is their decision. Some of their biggest successes are families that have gone through there twice. Sometimes they are not ready to make changes yet and need a little more time to hit bottom.

Each year the Haven serves more families than the year before. What they do directly impacts our local communities. They get people off the system. They return whole people to their families.

Donations always needed: Monetary, household items, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene and baby items. Drop off donations or mail to the Haven Shelter: 2480 S. Yellowstone, Idaho Falls, ID 83402 (208) 523-6413

### The Shepherd's Inn

A home for young women facing a crisis pregnancy. The Shepherd's Inn provides young women, ages 18 to 26, a non-denominational Christian home where they will receive professional help, loving support, housing, and education during their pregnancy. The Shepherd's Inn offers refuge to women as they sort out the difficulties of an unexpected pregnancy. The atmosphere of the home does not look or feel like an institution, but provides the comfort and security of a family home. It is their goal to provide each woman a clear understanding of her options and to support her regardless of her decision to parent or to work with an adoption agency. The staff's objective is to ensure each woman leaving the Inn will take with her a basic understanding of child development, positive discipline and how to care for her child's wellbeing if she chooses to parent. In addition, each woman will have the opportunity to learn household management skills, employment skills and personal goal setting. Donations can be made by calling (208) 525-2014.

5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**VETERAN'S POWWOW**  
FORT HALL CASINO

**Saturday, November 7**  
Sho-Ban High School Fort Hall, ID

Grand Entry 10m & 7pm  
Feast 5pm  
Cash Prizes for all Dance Categories  
Drums paid each session  
Door Prizes & Gifts for Veterans  
M.C. - Jason PrettyBoy Rockcreek, SD  
Arena Director: Leon Anthony

Family Table Displays Contact: Audrey Jim 208-221-2169  
For more information Contact: Destiney Tinno 208-237-8774 ext 3039

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