

Beehive Food Program

Since the beginning of the “Great Recession” in 2008, the Masonic Angel Foundation has observed a sharp increase in requests for food or food cards.

Prior to the 2008 recession MAF chapters rarely received a food request. However as the economy worsened, community food pantries were not able to obtain sufficient food to cover everyone’s needs.

At the beginning of 2012 many Masonic Angel Fund chapters reported that “food” had displaced eyeglasses as MAF’s top benevolence in units of service. Indeed, some chapters reported issuing thousands of dollars in grocery store gift cards to supplement what was provided through local food pantries.

The Masonic Angels began seeking a way to get more value for their food dollar – a way to put more food on the table with the same amount of money.

Their solution: the **Beehive Food Program**. **BFP** purchases pre-packaged, non-perishable foods and household items from local wholesale and discounted retail outlets and provides those products in monthly “**beehive packages**” distributed through MAF’s partners in the local schools they serve.

How is the Food Distributed?

A school nurse, teacher, social worker or other professional identifies the families who run short on food due to circumstances beyond their control.

A typical **Beehive Food Program** recipient family is facing a temporary challenge due to unemployment or unforeseen, necessary expenses. **Beehive’s** “customer” is often not on food stamps and may not qualify for traditional food pantry programs.

Recipients are identified by MAF’s school partners. The **beehive packages** are delivered to the MAF’s school partners, who arrange to get them to the family. As in all MAF programs, the school staff holds the recipient’s identity confidential. All recipients must be legal residents of the United States. MAF does not accept direct requests from potential recipients.



How Can You Help?

The **Beehive Food Program** accepts donations of food or discounted food from licensed retail and wholesale outlets. We cannot accept donations of food products from individuals.

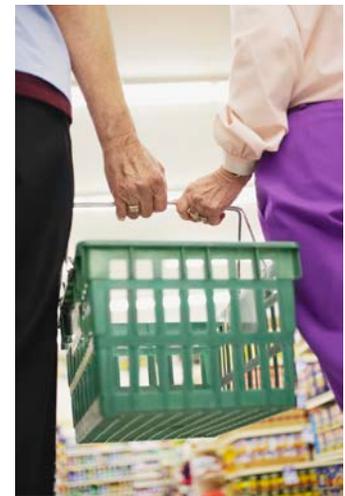
The Masonic Angel Foundation, Inc. will issue a 501(c)(3) receipt letter for all products donated.

This program is far more labor-intensive than most Masonic Angel Foundation programs, so **volunteers** are needed at each MAF chapter that offers the **Beehive Food Program**.

Volunteer!

Volunteers pick up the products, assemble the packages and deliver them to the schools. All **BFP** work is performed in compliance with applicable food handling rules.

If you would like to volunteer or if you’re a food vendor that wants to help, please contact us at 508-255-8812 or email info@beehivefood.org



Why Do Masons Do This?

We love kids and value each one's inherent right to reach his or her full potential.

Everyone involved with the Masonic Angel Foundation derives great satisfaction from helping a family at a challenging time.

We believe that such charitable work furthers our tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth.

We feel that such benevolence brings the community together and will bring like-minded men together in our organization.

What Does it Mean to Be a Mason?

You've just seen it!

Masons strive to practice their tenets in every hour of every day of their lives. Whether it is through helping a child in need, offering video child identification programs or providing a scholarship to a promising graduate - Masons are for and about their community!

To learn more about the MAF please visit www.masonicangelfund.org or call 508-255-8812 - or, better still, ask a Mason!



A Project of the Masonic Angel Foundation

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Masonic Angel Foundation, Inc.*



*Masons providing food
for children in our
community*