

PANTRY MANAGER PERSPECTIVE – Quick Reference Guide

Problem: Tens of millions of Americans rely on local food pantries, at which fresh produce is rarely, if ever available. There are well over 33,000 pantries in the United States, most of which are not well known in the community.

Opportunity: Enable America's backyard gardeners to easily locate local food pantries and share their excess bounty. Backyard gardeners with food to share can't if they don't know that a neighborhood pantry even exists.

Solution: AmpleHarvest.org offers virtual real-time information about neighborhood food pantries and is focused on getting fresh produce from millions of gardeners across all 50 states. Additionally, AmpleHarvest.org also offers gardeners and non-gardeners alike, the opportunity to see what store bought items the food pantries in their community are most in need of.

Take Action: No one needs to tell you, the people who operate food pantries, how difficult it is to meet the needs of your community today. By partnering with AmpleHarvest.org Campaign you have the opportunity to better serve your clients – don't miss out!



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Getting Started:

Register. It's quick, easy, and FREE! AmpleHarvest.org is totally free both for your food pantry - as well as the gardeners using AmpleHarvest.org to find your food pantry. Just visit www.AmpleHarvest.org and select Register A Food Pantry. Take a look at the video at www.AmpleHarvest.org/how2register to learn how to add your food pantry to the AmpleHarvest.org registry.

Memorize. Choose a user name and password which is easy to remember. You might be logging in more frequently than you think due to the flexibility of making modifications to your pantry listing at any time.

Customize. Don't forget to list the store bought items the pantry needs in the Additional Information section for visibility to anyone who accesses the pantry listing.

Specify. Make sure to specify when produce donations will be accepted at the pantry to ensure optimal freshness and quality for your clients. This will be especially helpful in the event refrigeration is limited or not available onsite.

Freshness guaranteed. The produce donated by your local gardening community should be in and out of your pantry within 1 to 2 days at most. Any produce harvested from a backyard garden can survive quite well without refrigeration for a day or so.

Need directions? AmpleHarvest.org uses Google Maps to make it easy for backyard gardeners to find your food pantry and drop off their donations. No P.O. boxes – please!

City gardens. There is a resurgence of gardening in cities across the county. Someone growing in the city can harvest as much as their rural counterparts. All that's needed is good soil, sun, rain and luck. No matter where a pantry is physically located it should get registered.

There's an app for that? That's right – AmpleHarvest.org Campaign released free apps for the iPhone and Android to find local food pantries. Just another great way to bring visibility to the needs of your food pantry.

Healthy competition. Let other food pantries and similar agencies in your area know about the AmpleHarvest.org Visit <http://www.ampleharvest.org/pantryreferral> for a sample email that you can forward to your neighboring pantries.

Pass it on. If your food pantry has a web page, put a link on your page to the www.AmpleHarvest.org site.

Measuring success. AmpleHarvest.org Campaign enables Americas to help their neighbors by reaching into their backyards instead of their back pockets. The ultimate success of the AmpleHarvest.org Campaign depends upon the number of food pantries that take the opportunity to be listed in the directory - thank you for doing your part!