

Should you donate cash or food to the food shelf?

For the donor:

It is easier to write a check than to remember to bring your non-perishables to the donation box or to the food shelf.

It is less labor intensive. Cash is much easier to transport to the food shelf than cans and boxes of food.

For the food shelf:

Cash donations allow food shelves to buy food items they do not receive as donations, including food for ethnic groups and special nutritional needs.

Cash donations may be used to purchase food at much lower costs per pound than the average consumer can. Winona Volunteer Services can purchase food as low as four cents a pound.

Cash doesn't dent, spoil or expire

Cash donations allow the food shelf to purchase food in times when private food donations are low. For Winona Volunteer Services, that time is during the summer and early fall months.

The important point to remember is to support your local food shelf with a food or cash donation. How you choose to do it, is up to you.

All donations to the Winona Volunteer Services, Inc. food shelf are kept in Winona for Winona families. We also receive additional monetary support by participating in the Minnesota Food Share March Campaign for the purchase of food.

In 2002,
an average of 367 households used the food shelf each month

an average of 73 households needed assistance with emergency food

99,487 pounds of food was distributed through these two food programs

79,843 pounds of food was collected through private food donations and food drives.
89% of the donated food is contributed during the 3 major food drives: *March Minnesota Food Share & Boy Scout Food Drive, Postal Workers Food Drive and 10 Days of Giving.*