

HUNGER HERO Challenge 2026

HANDBOOK



Revised 7/8/26

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for participating in our second annual ***Hunger Hero Challenge***, a community-wide competitive food and fund drive. In addition to fostering friendly competition while boosting employee engagement and morale, this Challenge helps educate employees about local hunger through direct involvement and impact.

This handbook provides planning tools and keys to success. Read on, engage your team, and help us exceed our **\$40,000 goal!**

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Date/Time	Event
Monday, August 24 12:00pm-1:00pm	Kick-Off Lunch at TAMUV Northwest on Airline
Tuesday, September 1	Challenge begins
Wednesday, September 30 4:00pm	Challenge ends
Monday, October 5 12:00pm-1:00pm	Wrap-Up & Awards Lunch at TAMUV Northwest

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Food Bank of the Golden Crescent, 801 S. Laurent St, Victoria, TX 77901

Hours: Monday – Friday | 8:00am – 4:30pm (closed for lunch from 12:00pm – 1:00pm daily)

Phone: (361) 578-0591 | **Email:** Valerie@tfbgc.org or Eunice@tfbgc.org

Additional Resources

- **Main Webpage:** www.tfbgc.org/hungerherochallenge (all links & resources are available here)
- **Register a team:** www.tfbgc.org/register
- **Points Form:** www.tfbgc.org/points
- **Leaderboard:** www.tfbgc.org/leaderboard
- **Givebutter (online donations):** www.tfbgc.org/online donations
- **Marketing Tool Kit:** www.tfbgc.org/hhc-toolkit
- **Book a Team Tour of the Food Bank:** www.tfbgc.org/teamtour
- **Fundraising Ideas:** www.tfbgc.org/fundraisingideas

HOW DOES THIS CHALLENGE WORK?

How you choose to participate is entirely up to you. Some organizations focus solely on financial donations, while others collect both food and funds. Many encourage volunteering, and some do all of the above. Every food drive, every bake sale, and every selfless hour volunteered help.

Teams can earn points in a variety of ways throughout the ***Hunger Hero Challenge***, but the three main ways to participate are:

Financial Donations

Every \$1 helps us provide 8 meals! Thanks to our ability to purchase food in large, bulk quantities, our cost per pound is significantly lower than what the average shopper would pay. That means your donation stretches further and helps feed more people in our community.

Food Donations

Please make sure all donated food items are non-perishable. Items should be unopened, undamaged, and within “Best By” dates

Volunteering

Volunteers are the heart of the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent. When your team volunteers, you are not just giving back; you are building stronger connections and making a real difference in our community.

POINT SYSTEM & AWARD CATEGORIES

The **Hunger Hero Challenge** uses a point system to determine winners in each category, also known as each team's weight class.

Activity	Points	Important Details
Financial Donations	15 Points per \$1 donated	Includes cash, check and online donations through Givebutter.
Volunteer Hours	10 Points per hour	Hours must be completed during the Challenge.
Food Donations	5 Points per pound	Food will be weighed by the Food Bank once received.
Weekly Food Drop-Off	200 Points	Drop off any collected food donations at the Food Bank weekly.
Recruit Another Team	1,000 Points	Recruited team must register by September 7th.
Attend Kick-Off	500 Points per attendee	Maximum of 4 attendees per team, for up to 2,000 points.
Tour of the Food Bank	500 Points	Limited to one tour per team during the Challenge.
Tuesday Tally	100 Points per week	Submit the Points Form every Tuesday.
Social Media Post	25 Points per post	Maximum of 4 posts per week. Must tag the Food Bank.

All submitted activities are subject to review and approval by Food Bank staff before points are added to the leaderboard. During the Challenge additional opportunities to earn points may arise.

Divisions

To keep things fair and competitive, teams will go head-to-head within their own division based on company size:

- **Lightweight Legends:** 1-25 full-time employees
- **Middleweight Marvels:** 26-100 full-time employees
- **Heavyweight Hustlers:** 101+ full-time employees

NOTE: Please count every 2 part-time Employees as 1 full-time employee.

Award Categories (Per Division)

- **Ultimate Hunger Hero Champion:** awarded to the team with the highest total points.
- **Most Monetary Donations:** awarded to the team that raises the most monetary donations.
- **Most Food Donations:** awarded to the team that donates the most pounds of food.
- **Most Volunteer Hours:** awarded to the team that completes the most volunteer hours.

GETTING STARTED

Register your team in just 2 quick minutes at www.tfbgc.org/register. Food Bank staff will then set up your team with a personalized Givebutter fundraising page and email that information directly to the team captain.

The most successful **Hunger Hero Challenge** teams keep things simple: choose a team captain, set a fun fundraising goal, promote participation, and keep employees engaged with friendly competition and creative events.

The **Hunger Hero Challenge** is flexible, so make it your own! Many teams host contests, dress-up days, raffles, themed events, and other activities to build excitement throughout the Challenge.

Need ideas? Check out our A-Z Fundraising Ideas at www.tfbgc.org/FundraisingIdeas

PROMOTE & ENGAGE

Keep your team excited and informed throughout the Challenge by promoting events, sharing updates, and encouraging friendly competition. Posters, emails, social media, contests, raffles, dress-up days, and incentives can all help boost participation.

Help employees connect to the mission by volunteering, taking a Food Bank tour, and sharing information about how the Food Bank helps neighbors facing hunger in our community. We're happy to provide promotional materials, photos, logos, and talking points to support your efforts.

Don't forget to invite vendors, customers, partners, and board members to join the fun!

Social Media & Website

We encourage you to take photos and share your **Hunger Hero Challenge** activities on social media! Be sure to follow, tag, and use **#HungerHeroChallenge2026** so we can celebrate your team throughout the Challenge.

COLLECTING FINANCIAL DONATIONS

Online giving through Givebutter is strongly encouraged and preferred. Once registered, your team will receive a personalized fundraising page, and all online donations will count toward your **Hunger Hero Challenge** totals. We ask that you submit the TOTAL amount from your team's Givebutter page on your **Tuesday Tally**.

Cash and check donations may also be dropped off at the Food Bank during the Challenge. Checks should be made payable to The Food Bank of the Golden Crescent. We will have countertop coin collection boxes available to check out at Kick-Off (while supplies last).

COLLECTING FOOD DONATIONS

We are happy to provide food collection barrels for your team to use during the **Hunger Hero Challenge**. Barrels will be available at Kick-Off on Monday, August 24th.

Food donations should be packaged, non-perishable items. Please avoid glass containers.

Donations may be delivered to the Food Bank throughout the Challenge during our normal business hours.

If you are dropping off more than one or two bags of food donations, please drive around the left side of the building and ring the doorbell at the loading dock door. Our warehouse team will be happy to assist with unloading and weighing your donation.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION.

Who can volunteer?

- Individuals ages 17+ are welcome, and children aged 10+ may volunteer with a parent or guardian.

How to sign up?

- To schedule a volunteer shift, please email volunteer@tfbgc.org with your preferred date, time, and group size.

Volunteer Hours

- Monday through Friday from 8:00am – 12:00pm or 1:00pm- 4:30pm
- Saturday from 8:00am – 12:00pm

What to Wear?

- Please wear pants or long shorts and closed-toe shoes. For safety reasons, short shorts, leggings, sandals, Crocs, heels, and flip flops are not permitted.

Please visit www.tfbgc.org/volunteer for more information and a list of FAQs

TEAM TOURS

Throughout the Challenge, each team can earn 500 points by taking a team tour of the Food Bank. Tours are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00am, 10:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm, 2:00pm, and 3:00pm. Tours will not be offered on Tuesday, September 29th. To receive the 500 points, at least 4 team members must attend the tour.

To book your team tour, please visit www.tfbgc.org/teamtour

REPORTING

Weekly Reporting

Each team can report their points at any time by submitting a **Points Form** at www.tfbgc.org/points. The Food Bank will review and approve submissions as soon as possible. Once approved, the teams' total will be updated on the leaderboard at www.tfbgc.org/leaderboard

Tuesday Tally

We ask that each team submit a **Points Form** every Tuesday to help keep the leaderboard as current and accurate as possible. Please include the total amount from your team's Givebutter page when submitting. Each on-Tuesday submission will earn your team an additional 100 points — even if you don't have anything new to add.

For this Challenge the weeks will be as follows:

- **Week 1:** September 1–7
- **Week 2:** September 8–14
- **Week 3:** September 15–21
- **Week 4:** September 22–28
- **Week 5:** September 29–30

Final Reporting

Complete and submit your final **Points Form** by 4:00pm on Wednesday, September 30th. Any donations/points received after this time, while still highly appreciated, will not count toward the competition.

CHALLENGE WRAP UP & AWARDS

Winners will be announced, and awards will be presented at the Wrap-Up & Awards luncheon on Monday, October 5, from 12:00pm to 1:00pm at **TAMUV Northwest Location, 1604 E. Airline Rd, Victoria.**