



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

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### **FOOD DRIVE AT SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY THIS SUMMER** *All Libraries to Accept Food Donations for the San Diego Food Bank*

**SAN DIEGO** – To provide food for both body and mind, the San Diego Public Library (SDPL) is partnering with the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank to host a food drive, *Reading (and Feeding!) is so Delicious*, in association with this summer’s “Reading is so Delicious!” theme. During the Summer Reading Program, from June 15-August 15, customers will be able to drop off donations of non-perishable food at any of the City’s 35 branch libraries.

Hunger is a reality for 1 in 6 people in the United States. SDPL sees a remarkable 5.6 million visitors annually, and is delighted to join forces with the San Diego Food Bank to offer customers a chance to help make a difference in our community and join the fight to end hunger. If San Diegans donate enough food to fill one barrel at each branch library, that will raise 7,000 pounds of food to help meet the needs of hungry neighbors.

“The partnership between the San Diego Food Bank and the Library is a great alliance,” said Mayor Bob Filner. “The Library is all about serving the needs of the community. Connecting the food drive to the Summer Reading Program reinforces for kids and their parents one of the biggest lessons in life, which is the value of giving back to the community.”

“The Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank is very grateful to the San Diego Public Library System for hosting a food drive on our behalf. It is a very important time of year for the food bank to receive donations ahead of the summer months when donations drop,

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but, while some low-income children continue to receive free school meals through the summer, many others do not and their parents are forced to turn to the Food Bank for help. We encourage the public to support the food drive to help us serve individuals and families in need,” said James A. Floros, President & CEO, Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank.

Traditional barrel drives are now a key source for high demand non-perishable items like peanut butter, canned tuna and meat, beans, rice, low-sodium soups and stews and low-sugar cereal. Only non-perishable, unexpired, store-sealed items will be accepted. The San Diego Food Bank cannot accept any glass containers, home-canned or baked items.

The San Diego Food Bank distributed over 20 million pounds of food in Fiscal Year 2010-2011, which is equivalent to nearly 16 million meals. It serves an average of 350,000 people each month in communities and cities throughout San Diego County, both directly to people in need at 153 distribution sites every month and by providing food to more than 350 nonprofits with feeding programs who, in turn, provide food to individuals and families in need. More information is available at [www.sandiegofoodbank.org](http://www.sandiegofoodbank.org).

To search for materials in the Library’s catalog, link to numerous resources, or find out about events at the San Diego Public Library’s Central Library and 35 branches, visit the Library online at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

*Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other*

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