



## **Newmarket Food Pantry Community Kitchen Fundraising Toolkit**

Thank you for your interest in volunteering in the Newmarket Food Pantry Community Kitchen. Our mission through the Newmarket Food Pantry Community Kitchen is to combat food insecurity and foster stronger bonds within our community. At the heart of our mission is the belief that every meal can be a moment of connection and hope.

### **Community in the Kitchen – Community Groups: Local Businesses, Organizations and Groups**

Our Community in the Kitchen program offers a unique opportunity to come together and give back to our community in a meaningful way! Here your team will have the chance to not only prepare nutritious meals for our clients but also contribute to our Newmarket Community Fridge project.

#### **How it Works:**

- **Pick a date and time:** The Community Kitchen is available Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:30am – 12pm and 1pm – 3:30pm.
- **Plan your menu:** we have developed some fabulous meal options and shopping lists for your team based on your budget. You will make a hot meal for our clients at the Newmarket Food Pantry as well as sandwich kits for our clients at the Newmarket Community Fridge.
- **Confirm your group:** we will email you to confirm the number of participants and your chosen menu.
- **Shopping:** your team will shop for the ingredients on your shopping list.
- **Get cooking in the kitchen:** your team will come to the kitchen with your ingredients. We provide aprons, gloves, utensils, packaging, labels, and seasonings.
- **Feel good finish:** leave knowing you've made an impact in our community!

### **Community in the Kitchen – Kids in the Kitchen: School Groups & Sports Teams**

Our Community in the Kitchen program for school groups offers a unique opportunity for children to come together and give back in a meaningful way! Here your group will have the chance to not only prepare fun kits for our younger clients but also contribute to our Newmarket Community Fridge project.

#### **How it Works:**

- **Pick a date and time:** The Community Kitchen is available Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:30am – 12pm and 1pm – 3:30pm.
- **Choose what you would like to prepare:** we have developed some fun options for our Kids in the Kitchen program. These include:
  - Birthday in a Bag
  - Healthy Snack Kits
  - Community Fridge Sandwich Kits
- **Confirm your group:** we will email you to confirm the number of participants and your chosen menu.
- **Shopping:** your group will shop for the ingredients on your shopping list.
- **Get cooking in the kitchen:** your team will come to the kitchen with your ingredients. We provide aprons, gloves, packaging, labels, and seasonings.
- **Feel good finish:** leave knowing you've made an impact in our community!



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**Fundraising Ideas:** there are many ways to fundraise! Here are some ideas to get you started:

- **Virtual Food Drive:** create an online fundraiser to encourage your friends and family to donate money instead of food. You can then use these funds to shop for your menu.
- **Birthday Fundraiser:** on your special day ask for monetary donations to support the Community Kitchen in lieu of gifts.
- **Cook off Competition:** everyone loves a good competition! Host a cook off competition among friends and community members. Charge an entry fee for participants and the winner gets bragging rights.
- **Garden Sale:** for our green thumbs, you can host a plant or garden sale and use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **DIY Crafts Sale:** create handmade crafts or artwork, sell them at local markets or online and use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Online Auction:** collect items or services from your community and host an online auction. Use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Sports Tournament:** Organize a community sports tournament, such as a basketball, soccer, or softball game, and charge an entry fee for participants. Use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Garage Sale:** declutter your home and hold a garage sale. Use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Run or Walk Fundraiser:** hold or participate in a charity run or walk, gather sponsors who pledge donations and use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Charity Bike Ride:** hold or participate in a charity bike ride, gather sponsors who pledge donations and use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Book Sale:** collect books from your community and host a book sale. Use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Car Wash:** hold a car wash in your community and use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Pet Wash:** hold a pet wash in your community and use the proceeds to shop for your menu.
- **Trivia Night:** host a trivia night. Charge an entry fee and the winning team gets bragging rights.
- **Social Media Challenge:** create a social media challenge related to your fundraising goals and encourage friends and followers to participate and donate.
- **Random Acts of Kindness:** perform acts of kindness for your neighbours, friends, or strangers, asking them to pay it forward with a donation to the Community Kitchen program.

Remember to promote your fundraiser through social media, local bulletin boards, and word of mouth to maximize your impact!

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**Email Suggestions:** we have provided an email series example for you to use!

#### **Email 1 - Kick Off Email**

Subject: Let's Make a Difference Together! 🌟

Hi [Community Member's Name],

I hope you're doing well! I wanted to reach out and let you know about something exciting I'm starting.

You might know that the Newmarket Food Pantry is a lifeline for many families facing food insecurity. Well, I've kicked off a fundraiser to support them, and I'd be thrilled if you joined me in this mission. Every bit counts, and together, we can make sure nobody in our community goes to bed hungry.



With the funds, we'll be shopping and preparing meals for the Newmarket Food Pantry's clients in their Community Kitchen.

Would you consider chipping in? Your support will put food on the table and smiles on their faces.

Thanks a million for being part of this fantastic journey. We can make a difference together!

Best Regards, [Your Name]

### **Email 2: Mid-Campaign Update**

Subject: Mid-Campaign Update: Our Impact So Far 🌟

Hi [Community Member's Name],

Hope you're doing well! I just wanted to drop you a quick update on our fundraiser for the Newmarket Food Pantry!

With your incredible generosity and our fantastic community, we've made some serious progress! As of now, we've raised [mention the current amount raised], and we're well on our way to making a real difference.

But we're not done yet! There's still time to pitch in and help us hit our target. Every dollar counts, and together, we can do something truly amazing.

Feel like spreading the word? Sharing our campaign with your friends and family would be so awesome!

Thank you for your unwavering support in the fight against hunger in our community.

Best Regards, [Your Name]

### **Email 3: Final Thank-You Email**

Subject: Thank You for Your Incredible Support! 🙏

Hi [Community Member's Name],

I hope you're doing well and feeling the same gratitude I am right now. Our fundraiser for the Newmarket Food Pantry has come to a close, and I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks for your incredible support.

Because of you and our awesome community, we've not just hit but surpassed our fundraising goal! We've raised a total of [mention the final amount raised], which is going to make a real difference in the lives of folks who rely on the food bank.

Your willingness to give, share, and support this cause has warmed my heart, and I'm inspired by the kindness our community has shown.



While this campaign might be over, the Newmarket Food Pantry's mission to help those in need goes on. Your ongoing support and belief in this cause mean the world, and together, we'll continue to create positive change.

Thank you for being part of this journey, and I can't wait to share what we were able to prepare with your generosity.

With immense gratitude, [Your Name]

**Feel free to make these emails as personal as you'd like, these are a simple framework for you to work with. You know your audience, feel free to make it yours!**

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**Social Media Suggestions:** Social media is a fabulous way to get the word out about your fundraiser!

### **Social Media Post 1: Kick-off Post**

Let's Make a Difference Together! ✨

I'm thrilled to kick off a fundraising campaign to support the Newmarket Food Pantry, with their Community Kitchen - Nourishing Neighbours Program. Your donation will be used to purchase food for the program, then my teammates and I will prepare meals for the Pantry's clients. Every contribution, big or small, brings us one step closer to ensuring that no one in our community goes to bed hungry.

Join me in making a positive impact! Drop me a DM for details on how you can participate. 🙏❤️

#CommunityStrong #FoodBankFundraiser #nourishingNeighbours #Newmarketfoodpantry

### **Social Media Post 2: Mid-Campaign Update**

📣 Mid-Campaign Update: Our Impact So Far

☀️ Thanks to your incredible generosity and the support of our amazing community, we've raised [mention current amount raised] for the Newmarket Food Pantry's Nourishing Neighbours Program! But we're not done yet! Let's continue to spread the word and make an even bigger impact. Drop me a DM and find out how you can help feed our neighbours in need. Together, we can achieve something truly remarkable! 🙌❤️

#TogetherWeCan #FoodBankHeroes #NourishingNeighbours #Newmarketfoodpantry

### **Social Media Post 3: Final Thank-You Post**

🙏 Thank You for Your Incredible Support!

🙏 Our fundraising campaign for the Newmarket Food Pantry has ended, and I'm overwhelmed with gratitude. Together, we've raised a total of [mention final amount raised], surpassing our goal! Your willingness to give, share, and support this cause has touched my heart. Our commitment to helping those in need continues. Stay tuned to see the impact your donation will make! ✨❤️

#Gratitude #MakingADifference #NourishingNeighbours #Newmarketfoodpantry



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### **Sharing is Caring!**

Stay up to date with what's happening at the Newmarket Food Pantry, and help spread awareness of our Community Kitchen programs by following our Social Media accounts and tagging or adding us as a collaborator for your posts!

Facebook: @newmarketfoodpantry

Instagram: @newmarketfoodpantry

Website: [www.newmarketfoodpantry.ca](http://www.newmarketfoodpantry.ca)

Email us at [information@newmarketfoodpantry.ca](mailto:information@newmarketfoodpantry.ca) for logo use!

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### **Thank you!**

We invite you to join us in the Newmarket Food Pantry's "Community in the Kitchen" Program as participants and as ambassadors of change. Together, we can create a ripple effect of compassion, awareness, and nourishment. Your involvement and support, whether through cooking, donating, or spreading awareness, are the building blocks of a stronger, more connected community.

Let's turn every meal into an opportunity to share hope, and let's cook up change together.

Thank you for being a vital part of this inspiring journey towards a brighter, more inclusive Future.