



the *giving* fridge

NON-PROFIT OPEN COMMUNITY FRIDGE

We believe that there are **FIVE EASY STEPS** to start a Giving Fridge in your own community.

1. Plan – Create a plan with your community. Things you need to discuss and ask yourself:

Do we have a significant need? Research the area's demographic and statistics specifically on refugee and homeless populations. These are the people who we try to target. We believe that dignity and anonymity can often be lost with these populations when they need to be maintained. At The Giving Fridge, we will help you highlight areas of need.

Where will we place the Giving Fridge? It is often very hard to find a home for your fridge that is accessible. We believe that community centers and religious institutions such as mosques and churches are often a very open to providing these resources. However, do not restrict yourself. Smaller towns and city departments are often willing to work with you as well. Independently owned restaurants can be considered too. Think big and respect the property owner who has given you a chance to spread the message. We have a legal document of consent available to look at in order to cover your bases.

Are there people willing to care for the fridge? There should be considerable enthusiasm initially. However, be wary that this is a very long term commitment that will need constant maintenance. Every community should assign a community manager that will constantly have the time to monitor the status of the fridge.

Does your city or town have any additional requirements? We often are guilty of proceeding without taking our law into account. STOP. Take a step back and contact your local human and health agency for further information. If you do not fit the criteria, do not be afraid to work around this to accomplish the final task: providing food to people in need.



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2. Fridge – Once you have done considerable planning, setup your fridge.

This may seem like a heavy task. Do not worry, this is why we are here. We have created more specific guides on which fridges to purchase and how to maintain them located on our website under How-to Guides. Any specific questions should be sent directly to our email. We will attempt to respond as soon as possible.

3. Volunteer – Gather and assign volunteers to keep your fridge running.

A Giving Fridge takes a lot of effort from many different people in the community. It is almost impossible to run it by yourself. Gathering volunteers in your community will allow you to provide the most benefit to people in need. A volunteer form and training must be completed before being able to monitor food in the Giving Fridge. Each Giving Fridge will be assigned a community manager who will control this process.

4. Spread – Find a way to inform refugee families and homeless of this option.

You should have already gathered the demographic and statistics in the planning phase. Now is the time to put that to work. It is often hard to do this on your own. Your local religious community centers and local non-profit organization should have access to refugees and can often relay the message of this option.

5. Additional – Find additional vendors and provide other resources alongside your fridge.

At this point, you may feel like you're not doing enough. Remember that the point of this is to provide a consistent anonymous food option for people in need. Often times, restaurants will be willing to partner with you to provide prepackaged meals once every



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week. In order to promote our vision, we feel that is it important to hold events to gather funds for your fridge. Work with others in your community to hold a park cleanup or cook-off to raise money for the fridge and or provide food for people in need. We will provide resources for further expansion.