

BEFORE YOU DONATE,
ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS: IS THE ITEM...

D

DENTED OR DAMAGED?

PANTRIES CAN'T DISTRIBUTE DAMAGED GOODS - THE SAFETY OF THE FOOD COULD BE COMPROMISED.

O

OPEN OR NOT IN ORIGINAL PACKAGING?

OPEN FOOD OR FOOD NOT IN ITS ORIGINAL PACKAGING COULD HAVE BEEN TAMPERED WITH OR MAY BE EXPIRED. WHEN IN DOUBT, PANTRIES CAN'T HAND IT OUT.

N

NEW OR NUTRITIOUS?

THE NEWER THE FOOD, THE LONGER IT WILL LAST ON SHELVES. NUTRITIOUS FOOD CAN BE HARD TO COME BY FOR PEOPLE DEPENDENT ON A FOOD PANTRY - THE MORE NUTRITIOUS THE DONATIONS, THE BETTER.

A

ABLE TO BE STORED?

MOST FOOD IS STORED AT ROOM TEMPERATURE AND THEREFORE NEEDS TO BE SHELF STABLE TO PRESERVE ITS SAFETY.

T

TOO LARGE OR TOILETRIES?

SEVERAL MODERATE-SIZED ITEMS CAN HELP MORE PEOPLE THAN A FEW LARGE ITEMS. TOILETRIES, PAPER GOODS, SOAPS, AND DETERGENTS ALSO MAKE GREAT DONATIONS.

E

EXPIRED OR EDIBLE?

EXPIRED FOOD PRESENTS A SAFETY RISK FOR PATRONS AND MAY EVEN VIOLATE HEALTH CODES, SO PANTRIES CANNOT DISTRIBUTE EXPIRED ITEMS. REMEMBER: IF YOU WOULDN'T EAT THE FOOD YOU'RE DONATING, NEITHER WOULD ANYONE ELSE.