Good afternoon!

**This is a friendly reminder that the 2016 California State Employees Food Drive started November 7th!**

Last year, California State Employees in over 100 agencies contributed over 230,000 pounds of food. In addition, a total of $195,689 was also donated and used to purchase more food. Altogether California’s State Employees contributed a combined total equivalent of **720,313 pounds of food!**

**This year we have a very ambitious goal of donating 750,000 pounds of food**. For the drive for every $1 donated, it is the equivalent of donating 2.5 pounds of food! If every state employee donated just $2, we would far surpass our goal and raise the equivalent of nearly 1.2 million pounds of food!

Food Banks are better able to stretch your dollar and allocate that money to items they need throughout the year, not just during the holidays. To donate money to your local food bank, visit our “[Donate](http://www.fooddrive.ca.gov/Deposit.asp)” page. If you donate to a Food Bank outside of Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services, send the confirmation receipt to addison.ford@cdfa.ca.gov along with the state agency you work for.

All benefits from the drive go directly to California Food Banks which help support their numerous partner agencies. Let’s show our support for California’s needy families during the holidays and the coming year.

As a reminder, the best type of food donations are non-perishable, highly nutritious, low sodium and reduced sugar.  Foods that are recommended for donation include the following:

* Canned tuna fish
* Canned vegetables
* Canned meats
* Canned fruit in water
* Peanut butter
* Beans
* Soup
* Macaroni and cheese
* Baby food (dry and/or canned) and baby formula are always in demand

**Open packages, open cans, open bottles, home-canned foods and expired items are NOT acceptable.**

**To learn more about the 2016 California State Employees Food Drive please visit the 2016 California State Employees Food Drive website at** <http://www.fooddrive.ca.gov/> **or contact me through email.**

