



WASTE NOT OC COALITION

Feed the Need

Donor Frequently Asked Questions

1. What happens after I complete my online profile?

- a. The app admin will review your profile, this usually takes up to 48 hours. If we have any questions we may contact you for additional information. After your profile has been reviewed and accepted you may start posting your donations through Chow Match. We will send you a message letting you know your account has been activated.

2. what food can I donate?

- a. We accept fresh, frozen, perishable and non-perishable, packaged or bulk food products that have been prepared and handled in accordance with state and local food handling guidelines. There are many different wholesome foods you can donate. **Donating food that is no longer suitable for consumption or has not been handled according to the above-mentioned guidelines puts your organization at risk.**

3. How do I know my food is being handled safely?

- a. Every volunteer handling food will have access to food safety instruction specifically for food recovery and must pass a food safety test prior to participating. They will not be granted access to the application until they pass this in-depth quiz. In addition, reporting will detail the time of and location of pickups and drop offs so you know your donation was handled safely.

4. Is there a minimum or maximum donation requirement?

- a. There is no maximum donation size, however we do prefer that your donation is enough to feed either 10 people or at least 10 pounds.

5. How is my donation recorded and reported back to me?

- a. The number of pounds you have donated and what agencies received your food donation will be available to you through the application. If you would like any additional information please contact the administrator.

6. What happens if my donation does not match?

- a. If your donation does not receive a match, please hold it in your walk-in until the next morning and try to match it again. If you are still having trouble matching your donation to a food runner or agency, please contact WNOC directly at (855) 700-9662.

7. Can individuals be donors?

- a. In order to donate to an agency, you must be a permitted food facility. There are many ways individuals can help end hunger, unfortunately we cannot accept individual donations.

8. What about liability?

- a. The Federal Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act provides donors with liability protection providing the donor is ***certain the food has been handled safely and in accordance with state and local food handling guidelines.*** –



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attached. Food runners are also provided with food recovery materials that insure the safe donation of your excess food to a food pantry while checking the critical time and temperatures.

9. Why donate? What are the benefits?

- a. Tax deductions are available based on your donations.
- b. Participation in food recovery program as part of a waste diversion effort puts your organization in compliance with new state laws.
- c. Donation of excess wholesome edible food add to your organization's bottom line through:
 - Reduced food costs.
 - Mitigate the rising cost associated with waste diversion.
 - Positive public relations in your community.
 - Increased staff awareness of food value.

10. Do I receive any recognition materials to show I donate to my community?

- a. The Waste Not OC Seal Program recognizes those who participate in food donation as a way to reduce food waste and end hunger in your community. The seal will be placed in your establishment's window or on your website for your customers and potential customers to see our organization's contributions to the community.

11. How do I sign up?

- a. <http://www.chowmatch.com/signup.php?sponsor=6&donor=1>



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**Excerpt from
CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
PART 7. CALIFORNIA RETAIL FOOD CODE**

Article 7. Food Facility Food Donations

114432. Any food facility may donate food to a food bank or to any other nonprofit charitable organization for distribution to persons free of charge.

114433. No food facility that donates food as permitted by Section 114432 shall be subject to civil or criminal liability or penalty for violation of any laws, regulations, or ordinances regulating the labeling or packaging of the donated product

“Nonprofit charitable organization” means either of the following:

113841 (a) A corporation incorporated pursuant to the Nonprofit Corporation Law (Division 2 (commencing with Section 5000) of Title 1 of the Corporations Code), that is exempt from taxation pursuant to paragraphs (1) to (10), inclusive, and paragraph (19) of Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 23701d of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

(b) An organization that was organized and is in operation for charitable purposes and meets the requirements of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD DONATION ACT

Federal Law: 1996- The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act

Each year, 14 billion pounds of food are sent to landfills. Meanwhile, nearly 30 million Americans, including 12 million children, are at risk of hunger. Potential donors most often cite fear of liability as the reason they refuse to donate to feeding programs. Before passage of the national law, all 50 states and the District of Columbia had adopted laws protecting donors. Yet, differences in language and applicability between states often discouraged national and regional companies from donating. With the national law in place, regional and national donors have the uniform language that protects them from civil and criminal liability.

The law **protects good faith food donors from civil and criminal liability**, should the product later cause harm to its recipient. The Emerson Act gives uniform federal protection to donors who may cross state lines.