KOSHER FOOD LIFELINE: A PROGRAM OF THE ORTHODOX UNION TIPS AND TRICKS FOR RUNNING Access SUCCESSFUL KOSHER FOOD PANTRY

# Today's Agenda

- 1. Maintain a dignified pantry experience
- 2. Utilize local Food Banks to increase kosher options
- 3. Increase food donations directly from manufacturers

# A DIGNIFIED EXPERIENCE: Which Pantry Are You?



#### Engaging Your Customers

- How do you interact?
- Who refers clients?
- Do clients wait on a line to enter the pantry or do you offer private appointments?
- How are clients notified of pantry closures?
- How are clients notified if you get a special delivery outside of regular pantry hours?

Users can log in to the online ordering system and place orders

There are volunteers to assist client with ordering in the front lobby if not ordered from home

> The orders get printed in the back and volunteers pack the orders in the back.

> > Client picks up the order

#### UTILIZING TECHNOLOGY

#### Ideal Home Deliveries

Volunteer Tracking system "Managers" to oversee routes Refrigerated/frozen items packaged separately, and box is labelled

# UTILIZING LOCAL FOOD BANKS TO INCREASE KOSHER OPTIONS IN YOUR PANTRY

# WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR FOOD FROM?

#### **FUNDRAISED DOLLARS:**

- PURCHASING THROUGH LOCAL
  DISTRIBUTORS
- PURCHASING THROUGH LOCAL STORES
  AND MARKETS

#### **GOVERNMENT GRANTS:**

• FOOD BANKS

# BENEFITS OF A KOSHER ONLY FOOD PANTRY

- Clients trust non labeled kosher products from Food Bank
- You can ask for increased kosher products from Food Bank
- Everyone that comes to the pantry receives kosher food regardless of religion
- Jewish law to provide kosher food
- All clients will trust that all the food is kosher in the pantry and all people can shop there

### How to Advocate for Kosher Food



How does your Food Bank notify you of available products?



Produce

Specialty Foods: Passover and Jewish brands (Kedem grape juice)



Holidays Food Items: Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Passover, High Holidays



POLL



# No Two Food Banks are the Same

Kosher and Non kosher Available Products

Meetings with Lay Leaders and Government Officials

Explain Dietary Restrictions of Your Community

Look at the Meal Gap



## Food Bank Guidelines

- All Food Banks follow MY PLATE
- Nutritional Requirements
- As a kosher pantry, most if not all the grains, fruits and vegetables can be received from Food Bank at no/minimal cost to your agency

#### SAVE YOUR FUNDRAISED DOLLARS

- Save your money for the following food items that are not available from free sources:
  - Kosher Poultry
  - Kosher Meat
  - Cholov Yisroel Milk
  - Kosher Cheese
  - Kedem Grape Juice
  - Specialty Holiday Products
  - Passover Foods

#### Food Donations From Manufacturers



## Supermarkets

- Ask for their "kosher aisle" donations
- Inquire which days they go through near date products or sealed returns
- Offer to publicize the donations
- Utilize all donor relationships with manufacturers: Kids Can Do in Delmar, NY



Shalom Kosher Food Pantry in Delmar, NY

#### KIDS CAN DO: A "CAN-PAIGN"

https://www.spotlightnews.com/towns/ bethlehem/2019/11/13/a-can-paignwith-a-message/

# Ongoing Donations vs One Time Donations



Local retailers

Major manufacturers

Q

Look at company websites



Ensure product is sealed when received

#### TRANSPORTATION

#### Have a plan for when donations are available

Utilize your volunteers

Must have a way to contact clients for when donations come in

# A FINAL WORD



THE BUSINESS OF CHESSED



YOU KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY BEST

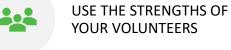


SERVE YOUR CLIENTS WITH DIGNITY

GET THEM THE FOOD THEY NEED THAT IS NUTRITOUS AND KOSHER



LEVERAGE YOUR FUNDRAISED DOLLARS BY TAKING AVAILABLE KOSHER FOOD FROM FOOD BANK



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FOOD FOR "LIFE"



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