Advisors’ directions for the canned food drive

Thank you in advance for your help with this project.

On the day after Halloween (Friday, November 1, 2013), expect your advisory students to bring in canned goods from their trick or treating adventures. The students will bring the canned goods to your room first thing in the morning. During advisory, please have the students help carefully box and bag the goods in the most efficient manner that is not too heavy. Please count the number of items collected and the number of students in advisory that day (so we can figure out the best can:student ratio). Email those numbers to me at [email address]. The advisory with the best ratio will get a baked goods bonus on Monday, November 2nd.

After the items are bagged/boxed, please have students carry the boxes to the storage area under the stairs in Building 4. The overflow will go into the hallway by the printer. At the end of the day, junior/senior and parent volunteers will drive the canned goods to the Capitol Area Food Bank on South Congress between William Cannon and Slaughter. If you drive in that direction and can be there before the food bank closes on Friday at 5 pm, I would love to have extra drivers lined up since we have no idea how successful this drive will be.

It would also be great if you are able to raise awareness amongst students either in your advisories or classes about the issues of hunger in the Austin area. I’ve included a few resources below.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Elizabeth Galen

Hunger Facts:

By contributing to the Capital Area Food Bank, you help provide nutrition to the 48,000 clients we serve each week, 30,000 of whom are children.

The Capital Area Food Bank is expecting an increase in people needing assistance because of the cuts to SNAP (food stamps) by the US House. Cuts begin on November 1, the day we will deliver canned goods to the food bank:

<http://www.kxan.com/news/local/austin/food-help-numbers-not-falling-in-austin-area>

<http://www.hungerisunacceptable.com/blog/2013/09/20/5-things-you-can-do-in-the-wake-of-nearly-40-billion-in-cuts-to-food-stamps/>

The government shutdown is also creating an increase in needs for food as many are not being paid or are not receiving benefits they normally receive:

<http://www.hungerisunacceptable.com/blog/2013/10/02/war-on-our-poor/>

More information and statistics about the Capital Area Food Bank:
<http://www.austinfoodbank.org/about-us/>