



To: CIACO Members

From: Committee Chair's Mark Saverino / Dan Mastropieri

Subject "CIACO Baskets of Love 2024" Thanksgiving Feed the Families

Date: August 1, 2024

For the past 25 years, our generous CIACO members and families have come together to give back to our community by putting together the CIACO Baskets Of Love. For the past several years, we have picked up and consolidated two 53ft truckloads of food at our warehouse and then assembled and distributed 600 Baskets containing 30 individual food items (including a frozen turkey)! This is more than enough food to feed more than 3,500 people in need. This year, the need is even greater, and we are very excited to announce that we will increase the total baskets from 600 to 700! The additional 100 baskets will feed more than 500 people in need. This means that this year, we will feed more than 4,000 individuals in need!

On Sunday November 24, 2024, we will come together once again to assemble the 700 baskets (60 lb cartons of food) at the Greco Warehouse located at 2575 ENTERPRISE CIRCLE, WEST CHICAGO IL, 60185. To ensure a successful outcome, our Baskets committee has already begun conducting an extensive outreach to our generous food manufacturers, retailers & distributors that have helped us in the past as well as outreach to new donors. There are a few ways to get involved. First, we could certainly use your help with outreach to your own personal network and helping secure applicable food items. Second, consider joining our committee to help with outreach, set up day and day of activities.

- Saturday, November 23, 2024 @ 9:30 am, is Set Up Day. (Receiving Pallets & Set up Conveyor's)
- Sunday, November 24, 2024 @ 830am is the Big Day! (Volunteer check-in, assembly line supervision, Assembly line inventory control, garbage removal and breakdown).

Please feel free to reach out to committee chair's Dan Mastropieri at 630-333-8744 (dmastro@jbstrans.com) and or **Mark Saverino at 630-744-5223 (markdsav@gmail.com)** with any questions, donations or follow-up calls you need us to make.

For any monetary donations, please coordinate and turn in directly to Jack Maggiore srjamaggiore@comcast.net

Feel free to copy and paste the "ask letter" below into the body of your personal email and send to your applicable contacts.

"CIACO Baskets Of Love 2024"

Thanksgiving Feed the Families

Dear _____

I am a member of a great "local" charitable organization called CIACO (Chicago Italian American Charitable Organization). All year long, our mission is to help those that are less fortunate. As we get closer to Fall season, we turn our attention to our annual "Thanksgiving Feed the Families Baskets of Love". This year, the event will be taking place on the Sunday before Thanksgiving (11/24/2024). We are in the process of an extensive outreach campaign to generous manufactures, retailers and distributors in the Chicagoland area. This assures us the opportunity to have a stocked assembly line containing enough food to feed 700 families (more than 4,000 individuals in need) a Thanksgiving dinner.

The event started in 1995 with the decision to forgo the 50 Turkeys given to our members and pass them on to those less fortunate. The need has grown steadily! 350 boxes were assembled in 2008. 500 boxes were assembled in 2009. This year, more than 700 boxes will be assembled and distributed.

In order to make this a successful event, we are looking for help to secure 700 of each of the following items; frozen turkeys, gravy mix, stuffing, bread crumbs, pasta, pasta sauce, canned cranberries, mac & cheese, pudding mix, corn bread mix, canned chicken broth, cookies, pancake mix, pancake syrup , peanut butter jars, 5 lb bags of onions, 8 lb bags of potatoes, sugar or any other item you would like to donate. In the meantime, please see the attached event flyer as and our 501c3 form.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to feeding 700 families (more the 4,000 people)!

All the Best and Happy Thanksgiving.