



# Interfaith Food Pantry

## Serving Morris County

### Canstruction Event

Canstruction Events are a fun way to raise awareness about hunger and food insecurity in your community while collecting food donations for local charities, such as the Interfaith Food Pantry. Canstruction Events can also be used as meaningful team building exercises for youth and adults.

Small teams will use their best math, artistic, creative and problem-solving skills to build a structure using food items donated prior to the event.

#### How to Host a Canstruction Event:

1. Participants should be asked to collect 3-5 canned or boxed food items that will be donated after the event.
2. Depending on group size, smaller groups should be arranged ahead of the event, to create small “teams” that will build their structure together.
3. Once participants are separated into groups, they will be instructed to use the food donation items to build a structure that can stand on its own. The subject of the structure can be open to group creativity or can have an assigned theme, such as “helping others”.
4. Teams will be given 20-30 minutes to build their structure.
5. Allow 15-20 minutes for each team to then present and explain their structure to the rest of the group.

#### Tips:

- Collaborate ahead of time with the organization where you will donate the food to be sure you have the most current needs and a plan for delivering the food.
- Invite representative(s) from the organization where you will be donating to come out and open the event with a brief discussion of hunger, food insecurity and the significance of events like this and the food donations they provide.
- Make the event into a fun contest by selecting judges, either from your organization or from the organization you will be donating to. Have those judges select the winning team.
- Promote the event using email groups, fliers and social media. Allow others to come and observe the event – that’s half the fun!
- Take pictures of the structures and post to social media to recognize all the teams participating.