

Check Out Hunger Campaign To Help Food Bank

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Millwood, NY - Check-Out Hunger is coming to a supermarket near you. A&P, Food Emporium, Pathmark, Balducci's, Decicco's, Fairway Market, and ShopRite in Westchester will host the annual Check-Out Hunger campaign to support the Food Bank for Westchester.

Customers can donate when making a purchase at a participating market.

The proceeds from Check-Out Hunger donations will be used to fight hunger locally. For every dollar donated, the Food Bank can purchase \$4 worth of food to feed hungry Westchester residents. The Food Bank estimates that 200,000 county residents are hungry or at risk of hunger. Half of them are seniors; more than one-third are children under age 18.

The Check-Out campaign dates and store locations are:

- A&P, Food Emporium, Pathmark: November 6 – January 28 – All Westchester stores
- Balducci's: October 9 – December 31 – Scarsdale store
- Decicco's: November 1 – January 15 -- Scarsdale store only
- Fairway Market: November 7 – December 31 – Pelham store
- ShopRite: October 16 – December 31 – All Westchester stores

To make a donation, customers select a \$1, \$3 or \$5 slip from the Check-Out Hunger display at the register and hand it to the clerk. Each slip has a bar code that scans in the amount to be added to the customer's bill.

The Food Bank is also seeking volunteers to monitor and replenish the Check-Out Hunger display at their local supermarket. Contact Nancy Lyons at (914) 923-1100 or nancy.lyons@foodbankforwestchester.org to volunteer.

Because of the poor economy and the high cost of living in Westchester, the problem of hunger has gotten significantly worse in recent years. Last year, the Food Bank distributed over seven million pounds of food, which was one million more than the year before and two million more than the year before that. But it was not enough to meet the rising demand. Because the Food Bank has been hampered in its ability to distribute more and more food because of limited warehouse space, it is moving into a larger facility in Elmsford in coming months. The new warehouse will enable the Food Bank to double its food distribution capacity immediately and to meet the rising demand well into the future.

For more information about the Food Bank for Westchester, call (914) 923-1100 or log onto www.foodbankforwestchester.org.

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