While 2020 has been challenging, the generosity of our community is apparent and giving opportunities continue into this holiday season. Social distance guidelines pose new challenges for groups wanting to organize charitable giving without gathering in groups. At Helpline House, we’ve been thinking creatively to facilitate holiday donations given our limited staff and curbside food pick-up. Some options this year:

- **Gift Cards:** During previous Thanksgiving holidays Helpline House has offered a gift card program. This successful program enables clients the freedom to shop when they need and to purchase what they need for their Thanksgiving dinner. The gift card program not only benefits clients, but it also resolves issues with limited capacity and staff limitations at Helpline House.

- **Holiday food kits:** Consider gathering “Holiday Kits” for our clients, which contain non-perishable ingredients for a recipe or themed items all in one bag. Click on this link “Holiday Kits” or contact the food bank for more information.

- **Socially distant food drive:** If your family or organization would like to conduct a food drive please click on this link (food drive) for more information and contact Helpline to coordinate the collection of donations.

Thank you for thinking of Helpline House this holiday season, Neighbor helping Neighbor, one neighbor at a time.

**Thank you!**

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**To Donate**

**HOW TO DONATE:**

- Drop food donations in the Helpline House bins at T&C or Safeway
- Support school or church-sponsored food/fund drives
- Donate online at [www.helplinehouse.org](http://www.helplinehouse.org)
- Bring your donation (food/funds/gift cards) to the food bank during donation hours

**WHEN TO DONATE:**

Mornings are best time to make a donation at the food bank:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday (9:00 – 11:00AM)

Please contact Helpline House for Food Drive Donations, so that we can ensure that we have the hands and the space to receive them: [helpline@helplinehouse.org](mailto:helpline@helplinehouse.org) or call #206-842-7621.
WHAT TO DONATE:
Due to the pandemic and the recommended safety protocols, we are discouraging the gathering of any large groups for a food drive. The most needed items this holiday season are Gift Cards. $25 grocery store gift cards are distributed to clients. Cards in larger denominations and other monetary donations are also welcome as they are used to purchase food in bulk at an excellent value.

**Most Needed Items – Basics**
- **Pull top preferred**
- Hearty Soups, Stew & Chili
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Proteins (tuna, salmon, chicken)
- Canned Corn and Green Beans
- Kid Friendly Snacks

**Most Needed Food Items – Holiday**
- Baking (flour, sugar, baking powder/soda)
- Spices (cinnamon, basil, oregano, etc.)
- Broth (beef, chicken, vegetable)
- Cooking oils (vegetable, olive, canola, etc.)
- Boxed Mixes (Stove Top, Scalloped potatoes)

To Apply for Food Assistance
If you or anyone you know are in need of assistance to provide food for your household, please visit Helpline House to register for services. Food assistance is available to all Bainbridge Island residents. All information is confidential and no income information is needed to use the food bank.

Our Thanksgiving Gift Card program is available to all registered families November 9th through November 20th. Food bags are pre-packed and distributed curbside noon-4pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. While we strive to have holiday foods available, no specific food is guaranteed and limited to food on hand.

Please Note: The food bank will be closed Wednesday-Friday, November 25-27. Emergency provisions are always available 24/7 on the Porch Pantry.

Don’t forget!
The 11th Annual Turkey Trot
Celebrate the holiday by raising funds for Helpline House.
The Virtual BI Turkey Trot 5K/1Mile Fun Run takes place Thanksgiving weekend on, around, or beyond Bainbridge.
November 26 - 29, 2020,
Anytime, Anyplace!
For information and to register: http://www.biturkeytrot.org/

This holiday season, the tables will be set for smaller gatherings, but with no less holiday spirit.