How to Donate and Volunteer for Thanksgiving in Chandler

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What better way to give thanks this holiday season than to donate or volunteer to benefit our Chandler community. If you’re looking for a way to give back, Chandler nonprofits offer a number of different opportunities to help make a meaningful difference this Thanksgiving.

Donate Items to Food Drives

One of the easiest ways to make a difference is to donate Thanksgiving food items to Chandler holiday food drives. Donated items will be packaged into boxes to provide families in need with the ingredients to prepare their own holiday meals.

Donate any of the following items before noon Wednesday, Nov. 20 to ICAN at 650 E. Morelos St. to help complete a food box for Chandler families this Thanksgiving:
- Boxed stuffing
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Dried gravy mix packets
- Canned vegetables (green beans, corn, peas)
- Canned yams or cranberry sauce
- Cornbread mix
- Soup mix (cream of mushroom)
- Dried fried onions
- Powder drink mix
- Pie crusts
- Canned pumpkin or fruit pie filling
- Salt and pepper

Volunteer to Serve a Thanksgiving Meal

Community Thanksgiving meals are a celebrated Chandler tradition that provide a home-cooked meal and a sense of community for residents and families in need this season.

If you want to donate your time to help serve a meal or join a community Thanksgiving dinner, you can do so at one of three Chandler locations. The need for in-kind support may be limited, so please inquire to the locations to learn more about available opportunities.

How Community Meals Make a Difference

Community Thanksgiving meals are a unique and caring way to share beloved traditions with Chandler families.

According to Melissa Kowalski, the Chief Program Officer of ICAN, most families participating in the Thanksgiving dinner live under the poverty line and would struggle to purchase the resources to celebrate the holiday at home. The event not only allows these families to participate in the tradition, but does so with the care and attention to detail that ensures families feel valued and appreciated during the celebration.

“The ICAN Thanksgiving Dinner is a unique event because it brings families together from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds that represent Chandler’s unique diversity, history and heritage,” Kowalski said. “Families have the opportunity to meet and interact with other community members — including police officers, city officials and volunteers — in a casual setting, which provides the perfect environment to promote a sense of community and strengthen family values.”

Get Involved with Chandler Nonprofits

For Our City-Chandler is a network of faith-based organizations, nonprofits, service organizations and businesses working together with the City of Chandler to offer compassionate assistance to community members in need. Learn more about the nonprofits and the people they serve, and find more opportunities to get involved throughout the year.