Food Donation Criteria

Pine Street Inn prepares and serves nearly one million meals each year by utilizing food donations received from individuals and brokers. Pine Street is grateful for your support in helping us provide well balanced meals to each guest we serve.

In accordance with food safety regulations, we can only accept donations that meet the following criteria.

- Food must be within “expiration”, “use by” or “sell by” dates.
- Food packaging must not be compromised: opened, punctured, damaged, or bulging
- Cannot be reheated or previously thawed and refrozen
- Prepared within 48 hours of donation, if refrigerated
- Has not been served in a buffet style service
- Perishable food must have been kept below 41°F except during preparation or while being held for service. Food temperature must not exceed 41°F for more than three hours

Pine Street Inn ensures the highest standards of food safety for its guests by adhering to Board of Health regulations. Food donations are checked by certified kitchen personnel; therefore, food donations can only be accepted during our Food Service operational hours between 6:00am – 5:00pm seven days a week.

Food donations can only be received at our Food Service loading dock located at 100 Paul Sullivan Way. Food donations cannot be accepted at the entrance of the Men’s or Women’s emergency shelter.

To learn more about inkind food donations or to organize a Virtual Food Fundraiser or a Food Drive, please contact Jack Nolan at jack.nolan@pinestreetinn.org or call 617-892-7780.

For more information about Pine Street Inn, please visit www.pinestreetinn.org