

Feed the Keys-Be Like Mike 2024

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'Feed the Keys' Food Drive Moves to May

Florida Keys – May 17, 2024, marks the third annual "Feed the Keys" Food Drive hosted by United Way of Collier and the Keys (UWCK). Through this effort, we continue to honor the memory of beloved Monroe County commissioner, restaurateur, and UWCK Local Advisory Board member, "Mangrove" Mike Forster, and his commitment to supporting Keys residents.

As part of "#Be Like Mike," "Feed the Keys" is the largest community-wide food drive aiming to augment the supply of nutritious foods available at local pantries as the school year ends. Working with food pantries to best meet the needs of the community, **UWCK is moving this critical project to May, rallying the community to support Monroe County families and children who lack access to school-provided meals during the summer months.**

Leah Stockton, Keys Area President of United Way of Collier and the Keys, stated, "We aim to honor Mike's legacy through this annual event, inspiring people to give back in a manner that was deeply meaningful to him - ensuring everyone in our community is fed. Monroe County has the highest cost per meal in Florida and that present challenges for our families, particularly during school breaks when access to free meals is limited. This effort aims to ensure no child in our community goes hungry this summer."

The community is encouraged to collect non-perishable food items leading up to May 17th. In the previous year, 8,099 pounds of food were donated. Now, UWCK aims to surpass that, setting a goal of 10,000 pounds for 2024. On the day of the event, UWCK will collect donations at participating partners: Burton Memorial Church in Tavernier, Keys Area Interdenominational Resource (KAIR) in Marathon, and Star of the Sea (SOS) Community Kitchen in Key West, from 2 pm to 6 pm. Community members can also drop off their donations at several collection sites Keys-wide, which will be announced shortly.

Additionally, we are introducing a virtual food drive from May 1st through May 17th at <https://givebutter.com/feedthekeys> to collect monetary donations. Contributions will honor Mike's and UWCK's commitment to feeding the Keys during times of need.

This event would not be possible without our sponsors, who we proudly recognize at uwcollierkeys.org/belikemike-feedthekeys/

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About United Way of Collier and the Keys:

United Way of Collier and the Keys (UWCK) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the education, health, and economic mobility of our neighbors in Collier and Monroe Counties. Through strategic partnerships and collaborative efforts, UWCK addresses critical social issues and works towards driving positive, sustainable change to build stronger, healthier, and more resilient communities.

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Feed the Keys FOOD DRIVE



FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOODS

Suggested Items:

Dry/Canned Beans
Canned Soups
Rice, Pasta

Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
Canned Fruits and Vegetables
Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken, SPAM)

Cereal/Oatmeal
Peanut Butter/Jelly
Individually Packed Snacks

*Donations of gift cards for local grocery stores may be included along with food donations.



Continuing the Legacy of "Mangrove" Mike Forster
A project by United Way of Collier and the Keys

DROP OFF BETWEEN 2PM & 6PM AT:

Burton Memorial United Methodist Church

93001 Overseas Hwy, Tavernier, FL 33070

KAIR (Keys Area Interdenominational Resources)

3010 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, FL 33050

SOS Callahan Community Kitchen

1020 United St, Key West, FL 33040



Join our virtual food drive!
Scan the QR code to learn more.

Share your photos of paying it forward
on social media using:

#FeedtheKeys & #BeLikeMike

For more information, visit UWCollierKeys.org/BeLikeMike



United Way of
Collier and the Keys

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