Program Overview

At grocery stores throughout greater Houston, shoppers purchase and donate nonperishables into Red Barrels, each assigned to a neighborhood food pantry that collects and distributes the food.

Consumers fill the barrels with purchased nonperishable foods.

- Food may be found in prepackaged, marked bags at the grocery store or donated.
- Barrels are located near the exit of the store.

History

Red Barrels started in 1986 as a three-month trial program and debuted in 20 stores. A founding board member of the End Hunger Network, Barbara Falik, had seen a program similar to this which used bins at grocery stores to collect pet food for animal shelters. She thought if individuals would give pet food while doing their grocery shopping, surely they would donate people food. She was right!

Participating Stores (check with your local grocer to be sure it has a Red Barrel)

Central Market
Food Town
H-E-B
Kroger

Retail Sourcing Manager
Shemika Jenkins
713-398-5036
retailrescue@houstonfoodbank.org

By dropping purchased groceries in Red Barrels you are helping a neighborhood food pantry.

houstonfoodbank.org
A gift of $10 provides 30 meals for someone in the community | houstonfoodbank.org/donatenow