

	272 Hudson Street Buffalo, NY 14201 716-381-8954 community@bigbigtable.org	Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 11am - 2:30pm Drop-offs for large donations can be scheduled 9-11am and 2:30-4pm; contact us for alternate arrangements
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IN-KIND DONATION GUIDELINES

Thank you for your interest in donating to Big Big Table Community Cafe! As a small nonprofit restaurant that uses a pay-as-you-can service model, every community contribution makes a big difference to the success of our operation. Here are some best practices for making a donation of goods:

- Check out our Amazon wishlist (link on website under the “Give” tab) for an extended list of items we’re on the hunt for!
- Please ensure that all food items are unopened, have undamaged packaging, and are not nearing or past their expiration date. Organic is preferred whenever possible.
- For large quantities of items (i.e. the results of a food drive) or physically large/heavy items (i.e. 25 lb. bag of flour) we ask that you use the contact info at the top of the page to schedule a delivery time.
- Items listed in **bold** text are high-priority items that we are always on the lookout for. Items that are *italicized* make an excellent donation in small quantities (i.e. bringing in a single carton of eggs in exchange for lunch one afternoon!)
- Chef Tom works hard to make the majority of our lunchtime offerings from scratch, which is why our wishlist favors raw ingredients rather than prepared foods like canned soup. We do occasionally accept perishable prepared foods from our restaurant partners (i.e. Fig Tree Patisserie frequently contributes desserts to our menu!), but these items must be prepared in a licensed commercial kitchen and their delivery coordinated in advance.
- Any surplus items we receive but cannot use internally will be made accessible to our guests via our dining room’s Little Free Stuff rack, or shared with one of our food rescue partners such as Friends of Night People.
- Please let us know if you would like an in-kind donation receipt!
- When in doubt, email our kitchen manager at tom@bigbigtable.org :)

KEY

Bold text = High-priority item

Italics = A great option for small-quantity donations

MOST NEEDED RIGHT NOW

Fresh staples

- Eggs
- Butter
- Milk, half & half, heavy cream

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- Onions
- Garlic
- Potatoes
- Fresh herbs
- Citrus
- Lettuce, spring mix, or kale
- Mushrooms
- Ginger

Protein

- Meat** - Chicken Thighs, Pork butts/Loins, Ground meats
- Fish**
- Tofu**

Pantry staples

- Olive oil
- Coffee beans
- Rice
- Vinegar
- Shelf-stable pantry basics

Frozen staples

- Frozen vegetables like peas, corn, broccoli, spinach, and butternut squash

Kitchen supplies

- New 16 oz deli containers with lids
- New 32 oz deli containers with lids
- Water-dissolvable food labels
- Disposable takeout containers (new/previously unused)

ALWAYS HELPFUL

- Red onions

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- Scallions
- Shallots
- Soy coffee creamer
- Extra virgin olive oil
- Sesame oil
- Rice vinegar
- Jasmine rice
- Basmati rice

*The Big Big Table team also has in mind some larger one-off items that would be very helpful to our operations! If you'd like to sponsor the purchase of a special item for the cafe, email us and we can chat!