The International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Oakland is organizing an on-going food drive to ensure that the clients we serve are provided with basic food items. The IRC in Oakland works to resettle refugees across the Bay Area, implementing a holistic approach to the process including employment services, mental wellbeing, and ensuring that basic standards of living are met during their first months in their new home.

For many recently arrived clients, it can take up to a few months for them to become financially stable and during that time, food security is not always a given. We are reaching out to you, the community, to help these families have access to filling and nutritious food!

We are collecting kits filled with small- to medium-sized packages of:

* Lentils
* Dry beans (chickpeas or kidney)
* Rice (white or brown)
* Pasta
* $100 gift cards (Food Maxx or Safeway)
* Flour
* Sugar & salt, tea & coffee
* Oil (olive or vegetable)
* Instant meals (dehydrated soups)
* Note: **No glass, canned food or perishable items, please!**

Some general guidelines:

* Only donate items that you would eat.
* Check that items are still within their “Use before” date.
* Avoid glass items, which can break.
* Avoid perishable items like dairy, meat, chicken, fish, and fresh fruits and vegetables.
* We can only accept unopened items. We can accept opened packages if the internal packaging is still intact.

Once you compile the kits, we are happy to accept drop-off donations at the IRC Oakland office**.** If you have any questions or to make drop off arrangements please contact [Deepa.Iyer@Rescue.org](mailto:Deepa.Iyer@Rescue.org) or call **+1.510.852.8923.**