

Questionable and Unacceptable Donations

Unacceptable Donations for Distribution

Cannabidiol or CBD and food infused with CBD should **NOT be accepted as a donation or distributed**. CBD is not an approved food additive by the FDA. At this time, CBD derived from cannabis is illegal to purchase in Minnesota unless prescribed and obtained from an approved dispensary.

Alcoholic Beverages (equal or higher than 0.5%) – Organizations are not allowed to distribute anything classified as an alcoholic beverage to the public unless they have a special license (usually a “special occasion license”). These permits are often temporary and are intended more for special events vs. charitable food distribution. Liability is also a concern.

Questionable Donations

While these donations are legal, Agency Partners may choose not to accept and/or distribute. The information below is meant to be a resource for partners.

Over the Counter Medications – Over the counter (OTC) medications are available to consumers without a prescription and fall into the following categories:

- **Drugs** – Substances intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease. OTC medications are defined as safe and effective for use by the general public without a doctor’s prescription.
- **Dietary Supplements** – Products taken by mouth that contain a “dietary ingredient” intended to supplement the diet. Permitted ingredients of dietary supplements include vitamins, minerals, herbs or other botanicals, and amino acids; and
- **Cosmetics** – Articles intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled, or sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human body for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering appearance. Acne creams containing benzoyl peroxide are included in this category as well as deodorants.
- **Standards** – All OTC medications must:
 - I. be within code date
 - II. have intact and readable labels, including common name of drug, list of ingredients, net quantity of contents, potency per recommended dose, adequate directions for use, storage requirements (if any), control number, expiration date, name and address of responsible firm, and warnings
 - III. have intact tamper resistant packaging
 - IV. must not contain ephedrine or pseudoephedrine (PSE)
 - V. **Storage** - OTC medications must be segregated and stored securely prior to distribution. Members must ensure that stored OTC medications can effectively be tracked in the inventory system (by lot, case or individual OTC medication) so to ensure that the OTC medication does not expire prior to distribution and has enough expected shelf life for eventual distribution and consumption or use by clients.

Non-Alcoholic Beverages/Products (less than 0.5%) – For non-alcoholic beverages/products, there are no Feeding America or other restrictions involved in accepting and distributing these. **There are no restrictions from the food bank or Federal laws outside of standard food safety.**

Examples of items that usually fall under the threshold and are acceptable to distribute include:

- Most kombucha products
- Wine vinegars
- Vanilla/almond extracts
- Liqueur-based sauces
- Some mustards
- OTC items like mouthwash or night-time cough medicines

For Support Contact

Agency Relations

orders@2harvest.org

651-209-7990