

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### News Release

#### ***Kern County Library Joins in the Countywide Effort to Collect Canned Food Donations November 7 – December 16***

As part of the annual Kern County Cares Canned Food Drive, all Kern County Library locations will be accepting non-perishable food donations from Monday, November 7 through Friday, December 16, to help the less fortunate in our community during the upcoming holiday season.

All donations will be used to support the Golden Empire Gleaners program, which will distribute the food and monetary donations to families in need throughout Kern County. 33% of children in Kern County live in families with income below the poverty line. In Kern County schools, 71% of students were eligible to receive free and/or reduced priced meals in the 2014-15 school year. Gleaners' mission is to help alleviate hunger, and the organization provides food to approximately 15,000 people every month. Last year, 27 departments participated in the canned food drive and raised over \$24,000 and 21,000 pounds of food. Donations will also be accepted at multiple County of Kern public spaces.

*For more information, visit [kerncountylibrary.org](http://kerncountylibrary.org).*