

Hard Hats and Can Stacks

Event Rules & Team Guidelines

Hosted by Eagan Building Group in support of the Franklin County Area United Way Campaign

Campaign Theme: Building a Stronger Community

Eagan Building Group is proud to serve as a Pacesetter Company for this year's Franklin County Area United Way Campaign. As part of our campaign, we are hosting **Hard Hats and Can Stacks**, a canned goods build competition that brings together clients, partners, subcontractors, vendors, and community members to raise funds, collect food, and build a stronger community.

Participating teams will design and build creative structures using donated canned goods. At the end of the event, all canned goods will be donated to local food pantries and distributed through Franklin County Area United Way. All funds raised will support the Franklin County Area United Way Campaign.

1. Event Details

Event Name: Hard Hats and Can Stacks

Event Date: Friday, October 30, 2026

Event Time: 2:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Event Location: KC Hall - Washington

Hosted By: Eagan Building Group

Benefiting: Franklin County Area United Way Campaign

Food Donation Recipient: Local food pantries, distributed by Franklin County Area United Way

2. Who Can Participate

Participation is open to:

- Clients
- Subcontractors
- Vendors and suppliers

- Community partners
- Local businesses
- Community organizations

Teams may be made up of employees, coworkers, family members, friends, or a combination of participants.

3. Team Registration

Each team must register in advance by completing the official participation form.

Team Entry Fee: \$150 per team

Registration Deadline: September 18, 2026

The team entry fee is separate from sponsorship opportunities. Companies may choose to enter a team, become a sponsor, donate items, or participate in multiple ways.

Each team will be asked to provide:

- Company or team name
- Team captain/contact person
- Contact email and phone number
- Estimated number of team members
- General build concept, if known
- Estimated number of canned goods to be used
- Setup needs or special requests
- Sponsorship interest, if applicable

Teams are encouraged to register early so event organizers can plan space, signage, voting materials, and event logistics.

4. Team Size

Recommended team size is **up to 4 people**.

Larger teams may be allowed, but space and event logistics may limit the number of people actively building at one time.

Each team must designate one **Team Captain**. The Team Captain will serve as the main point of contact before, during, and after the event.

5. Build Format

All structures must be built **on-site only** during the designated event setup/build time.

Teams may plan their design in advance and may bring organized canned goods, approved support materials, sketches, layout plans, and signage. However, structures may not be pre-built before arriving at the event.

All builds must be completed during the official build window.

Build Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Build Completion Deadline: 4:00 PM

6. Build Theme

All structures should connect in some way to the campaign theme:

Building a Stronger Community

Teams are encouraged to be creative. Build ideas may include, but are not limited to:

- Buildings
- Bridges
- Neighborhoods
- Skylines
- Houses
- Landmarks
- Construction-themed displays
- Community symbols
- Hearts
- Helping hands
- United Way-inspired themes
- “Foundation” or “building block” concepts

Each team will be asked to provide a title and short description of their structure.

7. Canned Goods Requirements

Structures must be built primarily from canned goods or other approved shelf-stable food items.

Acceptable items may include:

- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Soup
- Beans
- Chili
- Pasta meals
- Pasta sauce in cans
- Canned tuna
- Canned chicken
- Peanut butter in plastic jars, if approved
- Other shelf-stable food items approved by event organizers

Please do not use:

- Expired food
- Opened items
- Severely dented or damaged cans
- Rusted cans
- Glass containers
- Perishable food
- Homemade food items
- Items with missing or unreadable labels

All donated food should be safe, sealed, and suitable for donation.

8. Structure Size Guidelines

To keep the event safe and manageable, each team's structure should stay within the following recommended limits:

Maximum footprint: 5 feet wide x 5 feet deep

Maximum height: 5 feet tall

Minimum suggested cans: 100 cans

Recommended cans: 200 to 500 cans, depending on design

If a team would like to build something larger, the Team Captain must contact Eagan Building Group in advance for approval.

Event organizers may adjust space limitations depending on the final venue.

9. Approved Building Materials

Canned goods should be the primary building material.

Teams may use limited support materials to help with structure stability and safety.

Approved support materials may include:

- Cardboard
- Foam board
- Poster board
- Painter's tape
- Clear tape
- Rubber bands
- Zip ties
- String
- Lightweight wood base
- Small risers or display supports
- Printed signs or labels

Support materials should not visually overpower the canned goods. The finished structure should clearly be made primarily from donated canned goods.

10. Prohibited Materials

For safety and donation purposes, teams may not use:

- Glue directly on food labels or cans
- Hot glue directly on cans
- Screws, nails, or fasteners that puncture cans
- Paint applied directly to cans
- Open flames
- Electrical components without prior approval
- Heavy materials that create tipping or collapse hazards
- Glass items
- Hazardous materials
- Anything that damages the food items or makes them unsuitable for donation

The goal is to preserve all food items so they can be donated after the event.

11. Labels and Branding

Teams are encouraged to use the natural colors, labels, and shapes of canned goods as part of their design.

Teams may include:

- A team sign
- Company name/logo sign
- Structure title
- Short description
- Sponsor signage, if applicable

Company branding should be tasteful and secondary to the purpose of the event.

12. Setup Guidelines

Teams will be assigned a build space before the event.

Each team is responsible for bringing:

- Their canned goods
- Approved support materials
- Basic setup supplies
- Team signage, if desired
- Any approved display materials

Eagan Building Group may provide:

- Assigned build area
- Event signage
- General event instructions
- Trash/recycling options
- Donation collection coordination

Teams should arrive during the designated setup window.

Setup Time: 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM

13. Event-Day Format

Hard Hats and Can Stacks will take place as a **one-day event**.

The general event flow may include:

- Team check-in
- On-site build time
- Public viewing
- Judging
- People's Choice voting
- Awards
- Teardown
- Sorting and boxing of canned goods
- Donation coordination with Franklin County Area United Way

Final event schedule will be shared before the event.

14. Safety Guidelines

Safety is a priority.

All structures must be stable and safe for public viewing.

Teams should:

- Build on a flat, stable surface
- Avoid designs that are top-heavy
- Avoid sharp edges or unsafe materials
- Avoid blocking walkways, doors, exits, or emergency access
- Keep structures within assigned spaces
- Ask for assistance when moving heavy canned goods
- Keep children supervised at all times
- Follow all venue rules and event organizer instructions

Event organizers reserve the right to ask a team to modify, stabilize, or dismantle a structure if it appears unsafe.

15. Judging Categories

Structures may be judged in the following categories:

Best Structural Design

Awarded to the structure with the strongest design, balance, creativity, and construction approach.

Most Cans Donated

Awarded to the team that contributes the highest number of eligible canned goods.

People's Choice Award

Awarded to the team that receives the most votes through event donations.

Final award categories may be adjusted based on the number of teams and event format.

16. People's Choice Voting

People's Choice voting will help raise additional funds for the Franklin County Area United Way Campaign.

Voting structure:

1 ticket = 1 vote

\$1 donation = 1 ticket

\$5 donation = 6 tickets

\$10 donation = 12 tickets

Ticket purchase may be made through:

- Cash
- Check
- Venmo (Online payment link/QR code)

All voting donations will support Eagan Building Group's Franklin County Area United Way Campaign.

Checks should be made payable according to instructions provided by Eagan Building Group and/or Franklin County Area United Way.

17. Sponsorships

Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and individuals who would like to support the event.

Sponsorships are separate from the \$150 team entry fee.

Suggested sponsorship levels:

Community Champion Sponsor — \$1,000

Build team entry included, event t-shirts for up to 4 team members, premier logo placement on t-shirt, website, and event signage, recognition on social media, event, announcements, event recap.

Cornerstone Sponsor — \$500

Name on the event t-shirt, logo on event website, event signage, social media recognition, event announcements, and event recap.

Builder Sponsor — \$300

Logo placement on event signage, name recognition on event website, social media, event announcements, and event recap.

Community Supporter — \$150

Name recognition on event signage, group social media thank-you, and event recap.

Companies may choose to sponsor the event without entering a build team, or they may choose to sponsor the event and enter a team.

Sponsorship details, deadlines, and recognition opportunities will be confirmed once event materials and production timelines are finalized.

18. T-Shirts

Event t-shirts may be created and sold as an additional fundraiser.

If t-shirts are produced:

- \$1,000 Community Champion Sponsors logo may be included on the t-shirt, subject to logo submission deadlines.
- \$500 Cornerstone Sponsors name may be included on the t-shirt, subject to submission deadlines.
- Shirts may be available for pre-order and/or purchase at the event.

- Proceeds from shirt sales will support the Franklin County Area United Way Campaign.

Logo placement and t-shirt inclusion are subject to sponsor deadline, artwork quality, and production requirements.

19. Silent Auction Donations

Participants, sponsors, and community members may also support the campaign by donating auction items.

Suggested donated items may include:

- Gift cards
- Gift baskets
- Event tickets
- Local experiences
- Tools or equipment
- Company merchandise
- Food or coffee packages
- Family activity packages
- Professional services

All raffle or auction donations should be submitted by the announced deadline.

Raffle/Auction Donation Deadline: October 16, 2026

20. Teardown and Food Donation

Because this is a one-day event, all structures will be carefully dismantled at the conclusion of the event.

Teams may be asked to assist with:

- Dismantling their structure
- Sorting canned goods
- Boxing food items
- Counting or weighing donations
- Loading food for pickup or delivery

All eligible canned goods will be donated to local food pantries and distributed through Franklin County Area United Way.

Any support materials, signs, cardboard, or non-food items must be removed or disposed of properly.

21. Photography and Promotion

Photos and videos may be taken during the event for promotional and campaign purposes.

By participating, teams understand that Eagan Building Group may use event photos, videos, team names, company names, and structure images in:

- Social media posts
- Event recaps
- Campaign updates
- Sponsor thank-you posts
- Internal communications
- Future promotional materials

Teams should notify Eagan Building Group in advance if there are any concerns about photography or public recognition.

22. Important Deadlines

Final deadlines will be announced once the event date is confirmed.

Recommended deadlines to include:

- Team registration deadline: September 18, 2026
- Team entry fee payment deadline: September 18, 2026
- Sponsorship commitment deadline: September 25, 2026
- Logo submission deadline for t-shirt sponsors: September 18, 2026
- Auction donation deadline: October 16, 2026
- Event setup time: October 30, 2026, 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM

23. Event Organizer Rights

Eagan Building Group reserves the right to:

- Adjust build spaces based on venue limitations
 - Modify event rules if needed
 - Combine, rename, or remove award categories
 - Reject expired or unsafe food items
 - Remove or modify unsafe structures
 - Update deadlines or event details as needed
 - Make final decisions related to judging, safety, logistics, and event operations
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24. Spirit of the Event

Hard Hats and Can Stacks is intended to be fun, creative, family-friendly, and community-focused.

Teams are encouraged to bring positive energy, creativity, teamwork, and generosity. The purpose of the event is to support the Franklin County Area United Way Campaign, collect food for local donation, and come together to build a stronger community.



Thank you for being part of Hard Hats and Can Stacks.