

Blackbird Baking Company

Community Donation Policy

At Blackbird Baking Company, we believe a bakery is more than just a place to buy bread; it is a pillar of the community. Since 2009, we have taken immense pride in being a "local gem" of Lakewood. As part of our commitment to being the "pride of our community," we dedicate a portion of our resources each year to supporting organizations that align with our core values.

To ensure our contributions have the most significant possible impact, we have established the following guidelines for all donation and sponsorship requests.

1. Our Giving Pillars

We prioritize requests that fall into the following categories:

- **Education:** Supporting programs that empower students, teachers, and lifelong learners.
- **Hunger Relief:** Partnering with organizations dedicated to food security and ensuring no neighbor goes hungry.

2. Geographic Focus: Our Backyard

We are deeply rooted in our local neighborhood. We prioritize support for public schools and non-profit organizations located within:

- Lakewood, Ohio
- Rocky River, Ohio

3. Eligibility & Exclusions

While we admire the work of many diverse organizations, Blackbird Baking Company maintains the following eligibility requirements:

- **Mandatory Form:** We will only approve requests that are submitted using our official Donation Request Form. Requests sent via informal email or letter without the completed form will not be considered.
- **Religious Organizations:** We do not approve donation requests intended to support religious organizations or sectarian purposes directly.

- **Private Schools:** Our primary educational focus is the support of the local public school systems in Lakewood and Rocky River.
- **For-Profit Ventures:** We do not provide donations to for-profit businesses or individual pursuits.

4. Requests Outside Primary Parameters

We recognize that many worthy causes exist outside our primary pillars and geographic focus. While we will review requests that do not strictly meet the criteria above, please be advised that they are significantly less likely to be approved as we prioritize our core commitments to local hunger and public education.

5. How to Submit a Request

To help us manage the high volume of inquiries we receive, please adhere to the following process:

- **Form Submission:** Our Donation Request Form can be accessed on our website, or you may request an emailed copy. The form must be completed in full before your request can be reviewed.
- **Lead Time:** Requests must be submitted at least four (4) weeks prior to your event or deadline.
- **Submission Methods:** Please email the completed form to hello@blackbirdbaking.com or drop it off in person.

6. Review Process

All requests are reviewed monthly. Due to the number of requests we receive, we are unable to fulfill every inquiry, even those that meet all our guidelines. If your request is approved, a member of our team will contact you directly to coordinate the details.

Thank you for the work you do to keep our community vibrant and connected. We are honored to grow alongside you.

Adria & Tom Clark, Owners, Blackbird Baking Company

Effective Date: January 23, 2026