



Battle of the Badges: Coming Together to Support Our Neighbors Food & Monetary Donations Sought to Help LiftUp Meet Rising Community Needs

Steamboat Springs, Colorado-December 1, 2025-This holiday season, the Steamboat Springs Police Department (SSPD) and Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue (SSFR) are teaming up once again—not in competition, but in compassion.

The annual Battle of the Badges returns with a shared mission: to fill the shelves at [LiftUp of Routt County](#) and ensure no neighbor goes without food or essential support during the winter months.

“Supporting our community is what this season is all about,” said Police Chief Mark Beckett. “We know many families are facing tough choices right now, and we want them to know they’re not alone. We’re here for them.”

This year, LiftUp has seen a 20% increase in food bank clients, highlighting the growing need across the Yampa Valley. In response, SSPD and SSFR will be collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations at local grocery stores— City Market, Safeway and Walmart—during the first three weeks of December, inviting the community to give what they can.



“More than 2,600 people in Routt County face food insecurity every day,” said Fire Chief Chuck Cerasoli. “This effort is about more than food—it’s about dignity, hope, and showing up for one another. We’re proud to be part of a community that cares.”

Most Needed Items:

- **Canned goods:** soups, vegetables, meats
- **Staples:** rice, beans, boxed dinners (e.g., Hamburger Helper)
- **Breakfast items:** cereal, oatmeal, pancake/waffle mix, syrup
- **Snacks:** granola bars, Pop-Tarts
- **Beverages:** shelf-stable milk and juice, coffee
- **Spreads:** peanut butter, jams, jellies
- **Personal care:** dental hygiene, feminine products, infant care items
- **Note:** Ensure all items are unopened and not expired.



If you prefer to donate financially, simply scan the Venmo QR code and note in memo/comment that donation is for LiftUp. Monetary donations will go to LiftUp’s Housing and Utility Assistance Programs, helping local residents stay warm, safe, and housed during difficult times.

LiftUp continues to serve Routt County with compassion and respect, distributing nearly 350,000 pounds of food this year alone, along with 150,000 Rocket Pack snacks and 5,000+ government food boxes. Your support helps them continue this vital work.

Let’s come together as a community and make this season brighter for everyone. Whether you give a can, a dollar, or a smile—every act of kindness counts.

-WeServeTheCity-

Contact

[Email Chuck Cerasoli](#), Fire Chief, or call 970-879-7170

[Email Mark Beckett](#), Police Chief, or call 970-879-4344

[Email Michael Lane](#), Marketing and Communications Manager, or call 970-871-8220