

Chicago Office Stocks Local Food Pantry

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Usually Reznick Group is all about the numbers. However, numbers weren't at the top of everyone's mind when staff from the firm's Chicago office decided to seize an opportunity to give back to their local community. One enterprising staffer read a newspaper article about a local food pantry that was struggling to provide for local residents who had fallen on tough times, and how two neighbors distributed small brown paper grocery bags on doors throughout the Chicago suburb neighborhood with little notes asking the recipient to buy a few extra items at the grocery store. About a week later, they retrieved almost 300 bags of groceries. The demands on the food pantry coupled with the dearth of contributions and the impending holiday season, sparked the idea for the food drive. The story was written up in a local paper that Reznick Group's Kristine Lazzara read and decided to replicate with the help of our colleagues at the Chicago office of Reznick Group

"We didn't set a specific dollar amount." But Kristine has a Chevy Avalanche truck. "And we decided to try and fill that with canned goods and other staples," said Matt Heikes, a coworker of Kristine's, and chairman of the company's Community Involvement Group. Of course, other staff members of Reznick Chicago didn't hesitate to pitch in. The result: a delivery of more than 20 boxes of food to the pantry.

The efforts of Reznick Group – Chicago have even been recognized in the *Forest Park Review*, a local community newspaper that highlighted Kristine and the firm in a story about the local community's generosity.