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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Nov. 6, 2023**

### **County Employees Join in Brawl of the Wild Food Drive**

Employees of Gallatin and Missoula counties are getting into the Brawl of the Wild spirit and challenging each other to see which local government can collect the most donations for the annual food drive!

Can the Cats or Can the Griz (depending on what side of the divide you live on!) is a friendly off-field competition between the University of Montana and Missoula County community against the Montana State University and Gallatin County community. The two communities open their hearts, pantries and wallets to see which area can raise the most food and money in two weeks leading up to the annual Cat-Griz football game, this year on Saturday, Nov. 18, in Missoula.

All donations collected from Nov. 4-18 help stock the shelves of our local food banks. In Missoula, donations benefit the [Missoula Food Bank & Community Center](#) and the [UM Food Pantry](#). Find a list of most needed items on the [Food Bank's website](#). In Bozeman, donations go to the [Gallatin Valley Food Bank](#) and MSU's pantry [Bounty of the Bridgers](#).

The community competition is now in its 24th year, but this is the first time that employees from the home counties for the two universities are duking it out. The winner of this first-ever competition will receive a proclamation and video from the losing county's commissioners.

We encourage our residents to join us in helping our neighbors this holiday season and donating to our area food banks. Food insecurity impacts people from all walks of life. An estimated one in 12 Montanans and 28,400 children experience food insecurity, according to [the Montana Food Bank Network](#).

Information on how do to take part in the competition can be found here:

- [Can the Cats](#)
- [Can the Griz](#)