

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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[Food for Fines image](#)

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**Library's Food for Fines program collects over 7,000 items for families in need**

ST. JOHNS COUNTY— 1/3/18 —Thanks for helping the library stock the shelves! With your support, the St. Johns County Public Library System collected 7,527 donated food items for local families in need with its popular Food for Fines initiative.

In its 10<sup>th</sup> year, 2017's Food for Fines program offered patrons an opportunity to eliminate library fines and stock the Health and Human Services Food Pantry at the same time. Patrons could bring in one non-perishable food item to the library and \$1.00 of library fines would be waived from their record.

"Our community's generosity is inspiring as we noticed an increase in food donations from patrons who didn't even have fines on their library account," said Library System Director, Debra Rhodes Gibson.

Branch Manager Brad Powell says, "With so many local families still recovering from Hurricanes Matthew and Irma, it was wonderful that the library could help others right before the holidays."

The Food for Fines program is a great win-win for the citizens of St. Johns County. For more information about this program and other services of the St. Johns County Public Library System, please visit [sjcpls.org](http://sjcpls.org). With six branch libraries throughout the County, and two traveling bookmobiles, you are sure to find a library close by!

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*The St. Johns County Public Library system serves the community by providing access to technology, facilities, collections, programs and services that help people meet our mission: **Connect, Learn, Enjoy @ Your Library**. For more information on the St. Johns County Public Library System, visit [sjcpls.org](http://sjcpls.org).*