



Hastings Family Service

Providing Help and Hope to our Neighbors

The people of the
Hastings area reaching out
as Family in support and
Service to one another.

Since 1970

JUNE 2021



All gifts proportionally **MATCHED**
during the month of July by



OPEN YOUR HEART

TO THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS



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2021 Board of Directors

Michael Swanson, President Katy Lindberg, Vice President Pam Oeffler, Secretary
David Fransen, Chair of Finance Melissa Freiermuth Peggy Horsch Brandi Poellinger
Tim Stanley Dr. Nick VenOsdel Dave Wilske Mike Woog Caleb Wyre

Growing to Meet the Need

As we reflect on the past 16 months, we continue to step out of the fear imposed by the pandemic; we strive to come together after a divisive election; and we continue to heal after the murder of George Floyd. When we think back on this time, we also give thanks for what we have become, despite so many challenges.

This past year required our Board and staff to think creatively and boldly respond by expanding existing programs and launching new ones. The Market food shelf was converted to a drive-thru as a way to distribute food in a confidential and safe way, and will become a permanent option for our neighbors who prefer the convenience of the drive-thru over shopping in the Market. Market on the Move (MOM) brought the Market food shelf out into the community with distributions at the school and senior housing. Later this year you will see our new refrigerated van out in the community on a regular basis thanks to a generous grant from the Katherine B. Andersen Fund. MOM is also here to stay!

With newly expanded programs and increased demand came the need for additional space. We are excited to share the news of our upcoming expansion! (See page 3.) The additional space will result in our ability to fully operate existing, suspended, and new food-related programs born out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the pandemic posed many challenges, more than anything, it pushed us to be better and more innovative than we ever imagined we could be. It reminded us of all we have to be grateful for including a community that found so many ways to support HFS through the pandemic. Our Board of Directors and staff will continue to respond with passion and purpose, committed to a vision for a strong and welcoming community where all people can live, work, play and thrive. Straight Ahead!

Chris Koop
Executive Director



Mike Swanson
Board of Directors President



Hastings Family Service

HELP AND HOPE SINCE 1970



Chris Koop

Executive Director

Joannie Becker

Meals on Wheels Assistant

Jessica Bierbrauer

Office Manager

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Programs Coordinator

Kelly Carter

Development & Community Relations Coord.

Sue Hill

Meals on Wheels Coordinator

Mary Kells

Rivertown Treasures Store Manager

Mary Kocak

Programs Director

Lori Mikel

Meals on Wheels Assistant

Desirée Olson

Programs Manager

Heather Rose

Beth Shofner

Rivertown Treasures Retail Assistants

Maria Slavik

Volunteer & Communications Coordinator

Amy Sutton

Associate Director

Find Us Online:



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www.hastingsfamilyservice.org

HFS Expands to Meet Community Needs



Amy Sutton
Associate Director

Hastings Family Service is expanding! We are thrilled to announce that HFS has purchased the building adjacent to our current facility! The additional space provides much-needed warehouse space, allows for additional office and meeting space, and will create an expanded volunteer hub.

One of the most challenging parts of my job during the pandemic was figuring out logistically how to make everything work. We were fortunate to have the space in Rivertown Treasures to convert to pallet storage for food and boxes, and we also utilized the store to create socially distanced food sorting and food packing stations for our volunteers. But as we worked toward reopening the store, we realized that many of the programs that we started or expanded during the pandemic are here to stay, and that requires additional space, especially for food. Fortunately, the answer was right next door!

This is a one-time opportunity to grow our capacity and functionality with adjacent space. It will provide a safer environment for staff and volunteers by reducing much of the heavy lifting when we need to move and store food as well as items like school supplies. It allows HFS to continue to serve neighbors from one location, eliminating barriers and allowing staff to work more efficiently.

HFS took possession of the property on June 30th and will begin renovations later this summer, including connecting the two properties. This expansion will have an amazing impact on the future of HFS and our ability to serve the community.

As we all continue to move past an unprecedented year of challenges, we are grateful for this opportunity and we look forward to offering tours and sharing this space with our community in the future!

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MN FoodShare Results

\$197,925 and 18,937 pounds of food

Thank you to all of the individuals, groups, schools, churches, and businesses who participated in the City-Wide Food Fight against hunger. All donations between March 1 and April 11 were proportionately MATCHED by MN FoodShare! Your generous support is deeply appreciated!

Just Friends Transportation Program Resumes Rides to Medical Appointments

Just Friends Transportation is open again for ride requests limited to medical appointments after being suspended for many months during the pandemic. Volunteer drivers and riders will follow safety protocols during every ride. More information available when you call to request a ride.

To request a
volunteer driver:

Call Maddie at
651-437-7134
by Wednesday
the week prior to
the appointment.



Rivertown Treasures

Thrift Store & Donation Center

Reopening July 6!



**NEW
HOURS**

WELCOME BACK!

Rivertown Treasures Thrift Store and HFS Donation Center
Open Tuesday—Saturday, 9 a.m.— 5 p.m.
(Closed on Mondays)



Hastings Family Service is excited to announce the reopening of Rivertown Treasures Thrift Store and the HFS Donation Center on Tuesday, July 6!

Staff and volunteers have been busy preparing to welcome shoppers and donors back into the HFS building. For 16 months, the store space has been

utilized to meet the increased need for food during the pandemic, and to provide volunteers the space needed to safely distance while packing and sorting food. Our priority has been to serve neighbors who needed food assistance, and we are grateful for your patience and understanding!

Rivertown Treasures and the HFS Donation Center are reopening with a fresh new look and safety protocols

are in place to keep everyone as safe as possible. We are planning fun surprises throughout our opening week and hope you will stop in to say hello and shop at your hometown thrift store! We have missed you!

Volunteers Needed!

Hastings Family Service has an immediate need for volunteers in Rivertown Treasures Thrift Store and the Donation Center. Weekly 3-4 hour shifts are available in a variety of areas in the store, assisting neighbors with clothing and household vouchers, the thrift store's retail operations, merchandising, or sorting and pricing items.

Weekly shifts are also available in the Donation Center, welcoming and assisting donors bringing in clothing, household, food and other donations.

If you enjoy helping others and working on a team, fill out a volunteer application online at www.hastingsfamilyservice.org!



The HFS Donation Center is anticipating a high volume of donations when it reopens. Please help by using the donation guidelines outlined on this page. A good general rule of thumb... if it is clean and in good shape and it is something you would buy in our store, we would gratefully accept your donation. If you would not buy it, please dispose of it yourself.

No clothing or household donations accepted on Mondays.



RIVERTOWN TREASURES DONATION GUIDE

How to donate clothing and household items at the HFS Donation Center



CLOTHING CONSIDERATIONS

Is the item in a condition that you would wear? If it is torn, stained, missing buttons, has a broken zipper, or overly faded/worn, please recycle it (Tennis Sanitation accepts clothing for recycling in your home recycling cart).



HOUSEHOLD HOW-TO

Is the item in a condition that you can use it? If the item is missing pieces, has broken parts, or does not work correctly, please recycle or dispose of it. It is helpful to have small pieces packed in a zip-lock bag or otherwise attached.



HOW TO PACK DONATIONS

For the safety of our volunteers, please limit weight of bags and boxes so they can be safely lifted by one person. Oversize bags or boxes may need to be re-packed before donating. Kitchen-size garbage bags (or smaller) are preferred for clothing donations.



HOW TO DROP OFF

The Donation Center is located at 301 2nd Street and is open Tuesday – Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A volunteer is available to assist and provide a donation receipt. Please do not leave items at the doors or in the alley outside of the Donation Center hours.



HFS CANNOT ACCEPT:

Furniture items	Medical equipment
Baby equipment	Electronics
Encyclopedias and textbooks	



More information at www.hastingsfamilyservice.org

All donations are at the discretion of the Rivertown Treasures Store Manager. Large loads may not be accepted in full depending on space limitations and volume.

Drive Out Hunger

The first annual Drive Out Hunger golf tournament was held Monday, June 14 at Hastings Golf Club. 25 teams of golfers participated, raising \$16,000 to support Hastings Family Service. Thank you to all who made the day a success!



Winner's Circle



Tournament Winners:
Jeff Carter, Josh Malaske,
Pete Dwyer, and Ben Gathje,

Congratulations!

Putting Contest: Mick Humbert

Ladies Longest Drive: Sara Linde • Mens Longest Drive: Anthony Davis

Closest to Pin: Chuck Isenmann • Longest Putt: Clair Severson

Thank You

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Katy Lindberg Agency
651.437.5031

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Schommer Insurance • Steve Johnson Agency State Farm Insurance • Vermillion Insurance Agency



**HASTINGS GOLF CLUB
& EVENTS**



Thank you Nicole, Ryne, and the amazing staff at Hastings Golf Club and Hastings Public House!

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS:

Coborn's - Hastings • Duff's Meats 2 • Graphic Design Inc.
Hastings Ford & Hastings Chrysler • Plastic Printers • Spiral Brewery

DRIVE OUT HUNGER PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Jeff Carter • Katy Lindberg • Rich Koop • Brandi Poellinger • Bob & LuAnn Wise

EVENT VOLUNTEERS:

Mayor Mary Fasbender • Dave Fransen • Melissa Freiermuth • Peggy Horsch • Katy Lindberg • Pam Oeffler
Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church Youth Group • Brandi Poellinger • Mike Swanson • Julie Wilkins

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*Summer is a time for kids
to be kids! For some
families, that isn't so easy.
Kids are out of school and
tight budgets are stretched
with additional daycare
and food expenses. Your
gift provides meals,
nutrition, and a chance for
kids to simply be kids.*

Thank you.

301 Second Street East
Hastings, MN 55033

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SCHOOL SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION

August 24, 25, and 26

August 30 and 31

Appointment scheduling begins August 4th

