

Hope *in action*



Hastings Family Service
HELP AND HOPE SINCE 1970

In Celebration of Community



HFS staff and volunteers gather in the Market to thank all who have generously supported Gobble Gait since the race began in 1998.

Sharing Miles of Smiles

Mayor Mary Fasbender and Jay Kochendorfer announced a Gobble Gait milestone on Oct. 23, surrounded by sponsors, volunteers, participants and community members at a celebration event at The Confluence Hotel. Gobble Gait has raised over \$2 million to support critical programs and services provided by Hastings Family Service since the race began. They, along with Brian and

Melany Radke and their families, have kept the Thanksgiving Day event going and growing since 1998. The commitments from sponsors for this year ensure the \$2 million milestone will be exceeded. HFS is grateful to to all who help organize, support and participate, helping area neighbors meet their basic needs.



Matching funds
available

See Page 3





'Tis the Season

Hello Friends,

Year end is always the busiest time of the year at HFS as we add holiday meals and Project Share to our many programs! At Hastings Family Service, this has been a year of growth, transition, impact, and

generosity. During the first half of the year, an average of 962 individuals from 388 households were served each month through our Market food programs. The need continues to grow, but the pace of growth has finally slowed a bit.

We are also gearing up for important events that make our mission of hope possible including Give to the Max day on November 21 and Gobble Gait on Thanksgiving morning. Please consider a gift on Give to the Max day online or in-person – we have \$17,000 in matching funds from generous friends of HFS! (see page 3) And it is a milestone year for Gobble Gait as our sponsors, participants and supporters have raised more than \$2 million to support Hastings Family Service over the past 27 years. Remember, your \$40 registration for Gobble Gait’s 8K can feed a family of three to four for a week!

As HFS strives to meet the increased needs of the community, your help is needed more than ever. We are so grateful to be part of this community!

Hope to see you at Gobble Gait and Happy Holidays!



Amy Sutton
Executive Director/CEO

Amy Tix
Programs Director

Joannie Becker
Meals on Wheels

Rob Berg
Market Warehouse

Jessica Bierbrauer
Office Administration

Kyle Bultinck
Food Programs

Sharon Deziel
Marketing & Communications

Mary Kells
Rivertown Treasures

Krista Kneeland-Pearson
Direct Services

Tammy Rud
Meals on Wheels

Maria Slavik
Volunteers

Victoria Wellman
Philanthropy

HASTINGSFAMILYSERVICE.ORG | 651-437-7134 MEALS ON WHEELS | 651-404-1548

Service Hours

By phone Mon–Fri | 9am–4pm
In person Tues–Fri | 9am–4pm

**CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS
NOV 28–29, DEC 23–26, JAN 1**

Rivertown Treasures

Tues–Fri | 9am–4pm
Sat | 10am–3pm

**CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS
NOV 28–29, DEC 23–26, JAN 1**

Donation Center

Tues–Fri | 9am–4pm
Sat | 10am–3pm

**NO CLOTHING OR
HOUSEHOLDS ACCEPTED
DEC 1–JAN 1**



Volunteers Diane, Rita, and Brenda sort backpacks for students.

School Supply Assistance Hits Home

The generosity of the Hastings community helped 277 students living in ISD 200 begin the school year with everything needed to learn and be successful. In addition to new backpacks and supplies, students received a clothing voucher to use at Rivertown Treasures. Thank you to all who supported this program!

Stories of Hope

Last year about this time, a donor was delivering their Project Share gifts for a family they had adopted. During their dropoff, staff thanked them for their participation in Project Share, affirming how important it is for families to have a little help—especially during the holiday season.

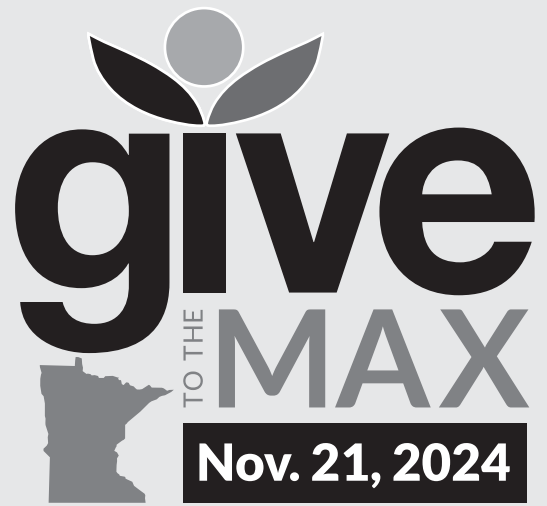
The donor promptly smiled and replied, **“I know . . . I was one of those kids.”**



From the receptionist to the gentleman filling out my paperwork for Christmas help—the entire appointment I felt so comfortable and respected. I know so many families need an extra resource for the holiday season and I have never had anything but wonderful things to say about what this program does.

So many times we say no to extra help whether it be for food, financial or resources because of the stigma that may come from it. Please let the staff know how gracious and kind they were. I appreciate all of you so much.”

— From a 2024 Project Share Family



Support HFS during the Great MN Give-Together!

Schedule your online gift now through Nov. 21 at hastingsfamilyservice.org or use the enclosed envelope to share a gift by Nov. 21.

Your gift will have a greater impact with \$17,000 in MATCHING FUNDS!

Thank you matching-fund donors:

Sadie Reiners

Elaine Ficker

Anonymous Donor



Scan to Give

Project Share holiday assistance provides gifts for children and food for the holidays.



Family donating Project Share gifts.



Receiving Project Share

Families living in ISD 200 with children ages 18 and under can call HFS to schedule an in-person or phone registration appointment. Families are encouraged to register as early as possible.

Registration closes on Dec. 6. Gifts and Holiday Meals will be distributed to families Dec. 16–19.

Supporting Project Share

Adopt-a-Family Opens Nov. 13

You can sign up to Adopt-a-Family at hastingsfamilyservice.org. Families are added as they register through Dec. 6, so if none are available, check back. Gifts must be dropped off by Dec. 16.

Holiday Meals

Donate \$40 to cover the cost of a Holiday Meal for a neighbor. See page 8 for details.

Holiday Shopping that Gives Back

Rivertown Treasures

...Your Hometown Thrift Store

HOLIDAY ROOM

Opens Nov 19

Get into the spirit of the season! Check out the Holiday Room featuring a wide variety of festive holiday decor and clothing.

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

Nov 30 • 10AM–3PM

Enjoy specials and festivities during the Downtown Hastings Holiday Hoopla.



Follow us for sales info and more:
RivertownTreasuresHastings

No Clothing or Household Donations Dec 1–Jan 1

Due to space needs for Project Share, Rivertown Treasures is unable to accept clothing and household donations the month of December. The Donation Center will be open to accept Project Share and food donations during this time.

Clothing and household donation acceptance will resume on Thursday, January 2.

Holiday Events

Join us at these family-friendly events to support Project Share and Hastings Family Service.



Give Thanks Concert

NOV 17 • 2PM

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

Enjoy songs of the season performed by Pete Likes and local musicians. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit HFS.



Gobble Gait

NOV 28 • 8K/2K 8:30AM

DOWNTOWN HASTINGS

This beloved tradition returns for its 27th year with proceeds benefiting HFS programs. Details on page 8 or visit gobblegait.com.



10 Days of Giving

DEC 1-10 • ISD 200 SCHOOLS

Merchants Bank hosts a 10-day donation drive for HFS, collecting food and monetary gifts and culminating with the Holiday Train. Watch for information from your school communities!



Rudolph's Ranger Ride

DEC 7 • 9:30AM REGISTRATION
HOUSE OF COATES

Decorate your Ranger and go for a ride! The ride leaves from House of Coates and ends at the Stein Haus and Duff's Tavern around 4:30PM. Cost: \$25 for each adult, children ages 14 and under are free. Proceeds benefit HFS.



Holiday Train

DEC 10 • 8:15PM Arrival | CP DEPOT

Enjoy the arrival of the CPKC Holiday Train and free holiday concert by The Lone Bellow and Tiera Kennedy in support of local food shelves. Cub Scout Pack 278 will be collecting non-perishable food and monetary donations.



Santa on the Farm

DEC 14 • 5-7PM

BREMER FARMS, 7048 150th St E

Drive through the Christmas lights display, get a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus, receive delicious treats, and say "Hi" to Princess Kay of the Milky Way and cows. Santa will be collecting food and monetary donations, and also supporting HCTV on Dec. 14. Bremer Farms Lights are open the entire month of December from dusk to 10pm, with donations to HFS being accepted throughout the month.



Skate with Santa

DEC 14 • 6-8:30PM

HASTINGS CIVIC ARENA

Join River Blades Skating School for a fun evening of skating and pictures with Santa to benefit HFS. Watch social media for details.

Stay Connected

Stay up to date by following us on social media. Please note that events may be subject to change.



hastingsfamilyservice.org



[hastingsfamilyservice](https://www.facebook.com/hastingsfamilyservice)

Your Gifts Provide Help & Hope

Join the Family Table

- Scan the QR code to set up an online monthly donation.
- Set up direct payment from a checking account: complete the authorization on the enclosed envelope and send it in with your voided check. This option incurs no fees!
- Use an electronic funds transfer through your bank account's Bill Pay service. Notify Victoria Wellman at 651-437-7134 if you choose this method.



Scan to Join

Thank you. Your monthly gift provides a stable source of help and hope.

Planned Giving

You can leave a legacy and continue to offer help and hope for generations to come by including HFS as a designated beneficiary on insurance policies, investments, and/or in your will. When giving through Retirement/Donor-Advised funds, your financial advisor will need our Tax ID# 23-7083534 and our address: 301 2nd St E, Hastings, MN 55033.

IRA Contributions

If you need to take a required minimum distribution (RMD) from an IRA, consider sending it directly to HFS to reduce your taxable income. Keeping your taxable income lower can reduce the impact to your Social Security and Medicare. Starting in 2023, the age requirement for RMD increased to 73 years. Contact your financial advisor to determine if this is a good option for you!



Your Gift Amplified

HFS is able to purchase even more nutritious foods at a large discount through Second Harvest Heartland with your gift.



Food you purchase with your \$10.



Food HFS can purchase from Second Harvest Heartland with your \$10 gift.

When You Give



\$40

Provides a complete holiday meal plus extras for a family



\$75

Purchases 450 pounds of food from Second Harvest Heartland



\$100

Provides two backpacks filled with school supplies



\$150

Provides fresh produce to a senior living community weekly

Making a Difference Together



Walmart Hastings donated \$5,000 as part of their Health & Wellness Days of Giving.



Affinity Plus Hastings staff decorated for Project Share & gave carnations to Meals on Wheels neighbors.



The office of Abra Hovgaard - Edward Jones sorted winter clothing for neighbors on their Day of Caring.



1,143 pounds of food and care items were donated at the Community Halloween Party and DBA Candy Crawl.



Knights of Columbus 4374 in Oakdale donated 334 pounds of freshly picked sweet corn.

Thank you to all who share help & hope!

Volunteers Make it Happen



Staff and volunteers dressed up for some Halloween fun.

Serve your community while having fun!

- Weekly and substitute shifts available
- Seasonal shifts to cover our snowbirds
- Flexible hours

Visit hastingsfamilyservice.org to complete an application.



Learn more/apply

THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Katy Lindberg, *President*
 Dave Wilske, *Vice President*
 Peggy Horsch, *Secretary*
 Kelli Reitzel, *Finance Chair*
 Kristy Barse
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 Brittney Hirschauer
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 Brandi Poellinger
 Rev. Joel Rova-Hegener
 Josh Schoaf
 Marta Tierney



Hastings Family Service

HELP AND HOPE SINCE 1970

301 Second Street East
Hastings, MN 55033

Share the Gift of a Holiday Meal

Your gift of \$40 will cover the cost of a Holiday Meal.



Scan to give

P.S. Holiday Assistance is available.
See page 4.

Get Your Gobble On! **THANKSGIVING MORNING | NOV 28** 7AM REGISTRATION | 8:30AM RACE START



(L-R) Mayor Mary Fasbender, Mercy Jay Kochendorfer and HFS Executive Director Amy Sutton showcase this year's race shirt at Celebrate the Milestone on Oct 23.

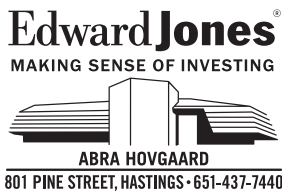
8K-2K

EVERY 8K REGISTRATION RECEIVES A RACE SHIRT

Register now to be part of this milestone year!

Participants are strongly encouraged to register in advance to avoid long lines on race day!

PRESENTED BY



GobbleGait.com
INFO & REGISTRATION

