

Hope *in action*



Hastings Family Service

HELP AND HOPE SINCE 1970

Help and hope for the holidays



Receiving Project Share Holiday Assistance

Families living in ISD 200 with children ages 18 and under can call HFS to schedule an in-person or phone intake appointment. Families are encouraged to register as early as possible. Intake appointments conclude Dec. 5. Gifts will be distributed to families Dec. 15–18.

Supporting Project Share

Adopt-a-Family Opens Nov. 12

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. 15.

Holiday Meals

Donate \$40 to cover the cost of a Holiday Meal for a neighbor.



Tell Your Story

Are you interested in sharing how HFS made an impact in your life? Contact Caitlyn at caitlyn@hastingsfamilyservice.org.





HFS is Here to Help

Hello friends,

The Hastings Family Service mission is to engage community to provide help and hope for neighbors, and our communities in ISD 200 have always provided strong support and

encouragement. We are experiencing the highest demand for services in our 55 year history. We have never needed your help more than we do in this moment.

HFS needs your help to ensure families can continue to put food on their tables; children and seniors are relying on us for the nutrition they need. For every one meal provided by food shelves, SNAP food assistance provides nine meals. SNAP is the first line of defense against hunger for 440,000 Minnesotans who are not receiving those benefits in November due to the government shutdown. The food shelf network in MN cannot fully meet that increase in demand, but with more food, more funding, and more volunteers, HFS can help to fill the gap.

The positive thing that comes from challenging times is that crisis breeds creativity and brings community together. Neighbors helping neighbors will always be our greatest source of help and hope.

It's reassuring to know we never do this work alone. Thank you for your help and encouragement!



Amy Sutton

Executive Director

Amy Tix

Director of Programs

DawnMarie Vihrachoff

Director of Philanthropy

Rob Berg

Market Warehouse

Jessica Bierbrauer

Office Administration

Kyle Bultinck

Food Programs Manager

Michelle Franzmeier

Program & Administrative Coordinator

Mary Kells

*Rivertown Treasures
Program & Retail Coordinator*

Caitlyn Otis

Development & Marketing Coordinator

Nina Owl

Senior Services Coordinator

Stevi Ritt

Community Resources Coordinator

Tammy Rud

Meals on Wheels

Maria Slavik

Volunteer Manager

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 27–28, DEC 22–26, JAN 1

Rivertown Treasures

Tues–Fri | 9am–4pm
Open select Saturdays

CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

NOV 27–28, DEC 22–26, JAN 1

Donation Center

Tues–Fri | 9am–4pm

**NO CLOTHING OR
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
ACCEPTED DEC 1–JAN 5**



Support HFS during the Great MN Give-Together!

Schedule your November 20 gift early at hastingsfamilyservice.org or use the enclosed envelope to share a gift by Nov. 20.

Your gift will have a greater impact with \$35,000 in MATCHING FUNDS!



Scan to Give

Thank you matching-fund donors:

In Memory of Ken
In Memory of hogrider60
Anonymous Donor

HFS Response to Government Cuts and Shutdown

HFS is a critical part of our community's safety net. We are serving working families whose wages haven't kept up with rising food prices, increased rent, and childcare expenses. Large increases in healthcare costs may also result in many who can no longer afford healthcare. Every change that impacts the stability of families creates greater need for HFS programs and services.

It is a challenging and busy time for HFS with deep cuts in SNAP food assistance and Medicaid, over 20,000 federal employees in MN not receiving paychecks, significantly higher food prices, and dwindling resource options. HFS is strategizing to create additional access and acquire and distribute more food in response to the need.

Our response: Increased access and food availability

- Opening to the public Mondays starting Nov. 10th - adds food appts resulting in 500+ pounds of additional food shared weekly; adding mobile distributions
- Increase in availability of Emergency Bags (E-Bags) with the help of church communities

You can help! HFS needs people, funds and food.

- Volunteers are needed. Apply on our website at www.hastingsfamilyservice.org
- Funds – every dollar counts. HFS can purchase food at deeply discounted prices that stretches the impact of your gift. (There are matching funds until Nov. 20th for Give to the Max day!)
- Food – host or participate in a food drive or your church's E-Bag efforts

To stay updated on our emergency response efforts and ways you can help, please go to www.hastingsfamilyservice.org.



Staff members Maria Slavik, DawnMarie Vihrachoff, Amy Tix, and Stevi Ritt represented HFS at Power of 100 on October 23.

HFS Wins Impact Award

Hastings Family Service was thrilled to be the Power of 100 Impact Award recipient this fall. This generous award of over \$19,000 will help to fund the Emergency Financial Assistance Program for our local families in need, as county funding for this program was eliminated. The Emergency Financial Assistance Program assists neighbors when they incur unexpected financial challenges and provides relief to cover costs such as car repairs, prescription medication, and rent or moving expenses. By keeping this program funded, we can make sure that our neighbors do not have to choose between vital expenses and basic needs.

Thank you Power of 100 members!

Holiday Shopping that Gives Back

Rivertown Treasures
...Your Hometown Thrift Store

HOLIDAY ROOM

Opens Nov 18

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 29 • 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 5

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 Tuesday, January 6. Thank you for your understanding.

Holiday Events

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



Gobble Gait

NOV 27 • 8K/2K 8:30AM
DOWNTOWN HASTINGS

This community tradition returns for its 28th year with proceeds benefiting HFS programs. Details on page 8 or visit gobblegait.com.

Take a look at our new Gobble Gait merch! Beanies and sweatshirts in youth and adult sizes are available. Scan below to view.

**Gobble Gait
MERCH STORE**



10 Days of Giving

DEC 1-10 • ISD 200 SCHOOLS

Merchants Bank partners with local schools to host a 10-day donation drive for HFS, collecting food and monetary gifts. Watch for information from your school communities!

Rudolph's Ranger Ride

DEC 6 • 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 4PM. Cost: \$25 for each adult, children ages 14 and under are free. Non-perishable food items requested at registration. Proceeds benefit HFS.



Holiday Train

DEC 12 • 8:45PM Arrival | CP DEPOT

Enjoy the arrival of the CPKC Holiday Train and free holiday concert by American Authors and Pynk Beard in support of local food shelves. Cub Scout Pack 278 will be collecting non-perishable food and monetary donations, and Branchline Church will offer s'mores and restroom access prior to the event.



Santa on the Farm

DEC 13 • 5-7PM

BREMER FARMS, 7048 150th St E

Celebrate the 10th anniversary of Santa on the Farm! 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 for HFS, and helping us celebrate 55 years on Dec. 13. 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 13 • 6-9PM

HASTINGS CIVIC ARENA

Join River Blades Skating School for the 20th season of Skate with Santa! River Blades figure skaters skate to your favorite holiday tunes 6-7:30, and Santa will be on the ice 7:30-8:30. \$2 suggested donation. Proceeds benefit HFS.

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 DawnMarie Vihrachoff 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. Contact your financial advisor to determine if this is a good option for you!



Your Gift Maximized

HFS is able to purchase more nutritious foods at a discounted rate through Second Harvest Heartland with your gift.



Food you can purchase with your \$10 at the store.



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 four backpacks filled with school supplies

\$150

Provides fresh produce to a senior living community

Making a Difference Together



Hastings Ford collected 275 pounds of food for The Market.



Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union Hastings staff decorated for Project Share.



Treasure Island Resort & Casino and Prairie Island Indian Community donated \$20,000 for emergency food relief.



305 students and 48 teachers in ISD 200 received school supplies to start the school year out right.



Girl Scouts decorated bags for Meals on Wheels to bring some holiday cheer to our neighbors.

Thank you to all who share help & hope!

Volunteers Make it Happen



200 Meals on Wheels volunteers deliver meals to over 100 neighbors.

Serve your community while having fun!

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



Learn more/apply

Visit hastingsfamilyservice.org to complete an application.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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hastingsfamilyservice.org | 651-437-7134



Hastings Family Service

HELP AND HOPE SINCE 1970

301 Second Street East

Hastings, MN 55033

\$35,000 in matching funds available

See page 3

Schedule your November 20 gift early at hastingsfamilyservice.org or use the enclosed envelope to share a gift by November 20.

Get Your Gobble On! THANKSGIVING MORNING | NOV 27
7AM REGISTRATION | 8:30AM RACE START

8K-2K

EVERY 8K REGISTRATION RECEIVES A RACE SHIRT



Race participants pose with Mercy the Turkey.

GobbleGait.com
INFO & REGISTRATION



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

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