



MAY 2022

Hastings Family Service

Providing HELP and HOPE since 1970



Celebrating 52 Years of Help & Hope!

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A Season of Transition & Transformation



Amy Sutton
Executive Director

Spring is always a season of change and renewal, and that is certainly the case this year at Hastings Family Service! Recent staff retirements gave us an opportunity to look at where we really need to focus additional time and talent. We didn't just fill existing positions but created new ones that allow us to focus more positions on our food programs which expanded greatly during the pandemic. (See pg 7 to meet our programs team!)

Programs and services at HFS have undergone major transformations as the pandemic required us to serve people differently, and it inspired creativity and new ideas. Many of those food shelf options like the Market drive thru and Market Express will remain, and adding programs requires more space. Additionally, the long-anticipated refrigerated van is now in our possession and you will see it around town sporting our new Market on the Move logo! We look forward to developing mobile programming along with expanded food rescue, and that also requires more food and more space.

To address that need for space, HFS acquired the adjacent building in 2021 and renovations were completed by Stotko Speedling in April to open the walls between the buildings and create the much-needed warehouse, office and meeting spaces. We will be moving and settling into the space throughout May. The renovation and expansion positions HFS to evaluate, develop and transform programs as the needs of the community grow or change. It also helps us provide a safe and efficient work environment for our 300+ volunteers, staff, and the community. It will take some time to re-think processes and fully utilize all of our spaces in ways, but we look forward to the opportunities ahead!

On April 21st, HFS celebrated 52 years of providing help and hope! We will continue to evolve, evaluate and strive to make a difference in our community while being good stewards of your generous gifts of time, talent and treasure. It is a time at HFS for creativity, transformation and renewal, and we are grateful to enter this new season with you.

Straight ahead!

Cover photo: Volunteer Rich and staff member Amy prepare Market Cart for distribution.

HFS Operating Hours

Programs available by calling 651-437-7134
Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Rivertown Treasures & HFS Donation Center
Tuesday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed Mondays and Saturdays

Find HFS online:

www.hastingsfamilyservice.org

-  @HastingsFamilyService
-  @HastingsFamilyService
-  @HFService



Hastings Family Service
HELP AND HOPE SINCE 1970



Amy Sutton

Executive Director

Deana Dunning

Programs and Operations Director

Joannie Becker

Meals on Wheels

Jessica Bierbrauer

Office Manager

Kelly Carter

Development & Community Relations

Diane Dillinger

Rivertown Treasures

Sue Hill

Meals on Wheels

Lynn Humbert

Meals on Wheels

Mary Kells

Programs

Lori Mikel

Meals on Wheels

Desirée Olson

Programs

Amy Schaffer

Programs

Maria Slavik

Volunteers & Communications



HFS Celebrates Volunteers and 52 Years of Help and Hope



HFS had a lot to celebrate in recent weeks! April 17—23rd was National Volunteer Week. The amazing team of volunteers, who make all HFS programs and services happen, were recognized throughout the week. HFS grilled hot dogs for lunch on Thursday, April 21, which was also the 52nd anniversary of HFS's incorporation as a non-profit. The week wrapped up with a tour of the newly renovated space. Volunteers had the first opportunity to see how the space will be used and how it will improve efficiency, safety, and the overall work they do on a regular basis.

The HFS volunteers who dedicate their time today are a part of a rich history of help and hope in the Hastings area community. With many exciting things on the horizon, it's a great time to get involved!

Donation Center Update:

Hastings Family Service is deeply grateful for your donations of gently used clothing and household items! Every item sold at Rivertown Treasures provides support for HFS programs and positively impacts our community.

Reminders:

- Rivertown Treasures is staffed by volunteers. To keep them safe, please put clothing items in kitchen-sized garbage bags. We cannot lift excessively heavy bags and boxes.
- Items must be clean and sellable. Items that are broken, missing pieces or damaged should be thrown away as they are not sellable and may cost HFS to dispose of.
- Donations can be dropped off at the Donation Center entrance across from the post office. Current hours are Tues-Friday from 9am-4pm. Items CANNOT be left outside. If left outside, it has to go immediately to the dumpster.

Please go to www.hastingsfamilyservice.org for a list of items we are unable to accept due to space limitations and other guidelines.

** Rivertown Treasures is closed Saturday-Monday each week. Staff members are needed for Rivertown Treasures on Saturdays to reopen. Contact Amy at amysutton@hastingsfamilyservice.org for more info.*



Volunteer Needs

Hastings Family Service is currently in need of volunteers in the following areas:

- The Market Food Shelf - *adding new shifts!*
- Food Rescue - *adding new shifts!*
- Volunteer Receptionist
- Rivertown Treasures Thrift Store
- Donation Center
- Just Friends Drivers
- Meals on Wheels Drivers

Weekly and substitute shifts are available Monday through Friday (hours and days vary by program area). Learn more about these volunteer opportunities and fill out a volunteer application at www.hastingsfamilyservice.org.

Driving Out Hunger: MN FoodShare Results

\$154,407 and 15,500 pounds of food

Thank you to all of the individuals, groups, schools, churches, and businesses who were Driving Out Hunger during the MN FoodShare Campaign. Pictured below are just a few of the many efforts throughout the community to support the HFS Market Food Shelf during this critical time. Thank you for Driving Out Hunger in the Hastings area community! Your support is deeply appreciated.

All donations between February 25 and April 7 made an even bigger impact with a proportionate MATCH by MN FoodShare!



Driving Out Hunger MN FOODSHARE



DCA Title collected food and funds to support the HFS Market Food Shelf!



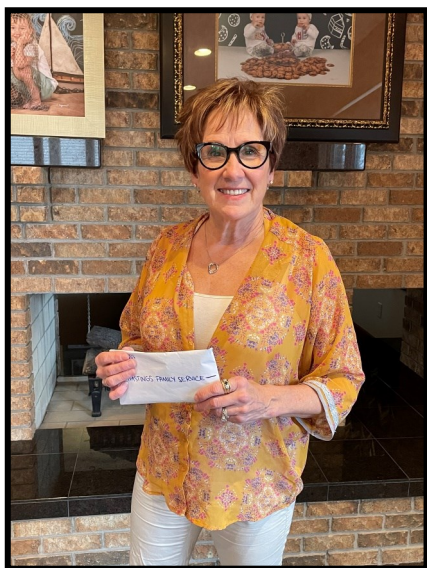
Allina Health Hastings Clinic hosted a reverse food truck event in their parking lot!



The Journey Church congregation is Driving Out Hunger with a \$10,000 gift to help HFS feed hungry families!



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School hosted a school-wide food drive, collecting 597 pounds of food and \$498!



Families who participated in Mac McGoon Portrait Studio's spring children's special supported HFS with \$1350 in monetary donations!



Hope Lutheran Christian Preschool collected 128 boxes of cereal for the HFS Market Food Shelf!



Muse2320 Fiber Co. collected over \$2500 for the HFS Market Food Shelf during the MN Yarn Shop hop!

Hastings Tastings Returns



Thank you to the restaurants, volunteers and all who attended and contributed to the successful return of Hastings Tastings! The 25th Annual Hastings Tastings was an evening of incredible food and community support! It was a great Feast for MN FoodShare, raising \$12,500 for the Market food shelf at HFS!

Your support is deeply appreciated!



Those in attendance enjoyed sampling specialty appetizers and beverages from participating restaurants and participated in the silent auction and a variety of raffles.



Thank you 2022 Participating Restaurants:
 Alexis Bailly Vineyard • Corborn's Deli • Cub Deli • Culver's • Froth & Cork
 Green Mill • Hastings American Legion Post 47 • Hastings Public House • Jimmy John's
 Lock and Dam Eatery • The Onion Grille • Spiral Brewery



People's Choice winners:
 The Onion Grille, Best Overall
 Hastings American Legion Post 47, Runner Up

Programs Spotlight: Market Food Shelf Express



Carts of food lined up in the warehouse in preparation for the day's drive thru food appointments. Produce and refrigerated items are added to the carts before they are wheeled out for our neighbors to pick up.

The past two years have been a time of incredible growth for the HFS Market Food Shelf. As the need for food assistance increased, HFS responded by expanding the offerings under the Market Food Shelf, providing more options and more accessibility for our neighbors. The results are exciting new programs and distribution models, as well as additional staff capacity to support these programs and volunteers.

A full food order from the HFS Market Food Shelf is a 7-10 day supply of food available once a month, currently provided in a drive thru format. With the recent completion of the expansion into the adjacent building, in-person



choice model appointments will resume in the coming weeks. HFS will continue to offer both distribution methods to meet the needs and preferences of our neighbors.

For those neighbors that need a little extra assistance between appointments, HFS offers Market Express, an express pick up of a 3-4 day supply of food on scheduled dates during the second half of the month. This option has also become popular with seniors and families who prefer a smaller amount of food at one time.

Seniors living in Mississippi Terrace, Oak Ridge Manor, and Rivertown

Courts, as well as those participating in the Meals on Wheels or NAPS programs are able to request a delivery of fresh and frozen produce through the Market Cart mobile produce program.

The addition of the Market on the Move refrigerated van will allow mobile programming to begin rolling out this year. The van also allows HFS to expand its food rescue efforts. The Market on the Move van has made it easier for volunteers to pick up a variety of fresh items from local grocery stores and can accommodate larger quantities.



All programs and services begin with a phone call: 651-437-7134

HFS is here to help!



Hands to Meet Need, Provide More Options



The HFS Programs Team: Deanna Dunning, Mary Kells, Amy Schaffer, Amy Sutton, and Desirée Olson.

Meet the Programs Team

Recent retirements provided an opportunity to grow and restructure our HFS staff, dedicating more staff to programs

in a way that better reflects the increased demand and growth in our Market food shelf programs.

Deana Dunning began a newly created leadership position as the Director of Programs and Operations in March and is leading the Programs team. She supervises and backs up all team members, serves as the primary liaison with Second Harvest Heartland and other community partners, will lead the development of Market on the Move mobile food shelf programming, and will also lead seasonal programs including School Supplies and Project Share.

Mary Kells transitioned from her store manager position in Rivertown Treasures Thrift Store to the Programs team in February. She worked in the food shelf throughout the pandemic when Rivertown Treasures was closed, has knowledge of the new food programs developed during COVID, and has already worked closely with our food shelf volunteers. In March, Amy Schaffer joined the team to work with Mary in food

programs. Amy has coordinated the Food4Kids program at the United Way for years, and as the two Program coordinators, they oversee all things "food!" This includes food rescue and food drives, the Market choice-model food shelf, the Market drive-thru food pickups, Market Express, Market Cart, and NAPS, and they also manage the food warehouse and inventory. Mary continues to assist in the store and oversees the clothing/household voucher program, and Amy also coordinates the Just Friends transportation program.

Desirée Olson join the Programs team in the fall of 2020 and leads HFS emergency assistance including emergency grants and reporting, and creates partnerships and gathers additional resources and referral information to share with neighbors. Desiree oversees the Neighbor Services area and the collection and dissemination of data/statistics, and helps with food ordering.



**Saturday
May 14**



Hastings Family Service

301 Second Street East
Hastings, MN 55033

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hastings, MN
Permit No. 9

Address Service Request-

Fill a bag and help feed a family. Your postal carrier will deliver your gift of food to HFS!



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«ADDRESS»
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP»



Drive Out Hunger

GOLF TOURNAMENT BENEFITING
HASTINGS FAMILY SERVICE

**MONDAY JUNE 6, 2022
HASTINGS GOLF CLUB**

Registration begins at 11 AM,
Shotgun start at noon, and dinner at 5 PM

Registration includes green fees for 18 holes, golf cart, raffle tickets, a light lunch and dinner. Join us for a great day of golf, contests, and awards.

Register today at www.hastingsfamilyservice.org!

Sponsorship opportunities available!
Contact Kelly Carter at 651-437-7134

Thank you 2022 Tournament Sponsors:



KEEPING YOU ORGANIZED®