Hope in action



Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign February 26 - April 6



Nourishing Hope During Tough Times

Neighbors are experiencing a record-breaking need for food assistance across Minnesota and Hastings Family Service is seeing this same need in our community. You can help! Every gift of food and funds received Feb. 26 through April 6 will be proportionately MATCHED by the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign. Let's work together to offer more help and more hope!

Food shelf visits to the HFS Market were up 53% in 2023.

7.5 million visits to food

shelves in 2023.*

* Source: https://gmcc.org/hunger-facts

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Amy Sutton *Executive Director*

Hope Through the Storm

Hello friends,

Hastings Family Service has experienced tremendous growth with 53% more visits to our Market food shelf last year—and that is just one of our food programs.

The question I usually get: why is there such an increase in need? I

guess the answer is that it's been a perfect storm. An unprecedented pandemic created many struggles like job losses and medical bills, and then we immediately entered an economy of inflation and high interest rates where basic items like gas and groceries increased by up to 30%. Families who are just getting by can't absorb all of that. But that is why HFS is here, and that is why we need and appreciate your help—especially when we can maximize your generosity with proportionate matching funds during Minnesota FoodShare's March Campaign (see pages 4–5).

HFS concluded a five-year strategic plan in 2023 and we are currently in a planning process to determine priorities for the next three to five years. A big part of that is determining how to address the needs of the community in innovative ways that will increase our capacity and expand access for our neighbors who need a little help and hope. HFS strives to run a lean yet generous organization, finding our way to "yes" whenever possible.

These unprecedented times have amplified how important it is for us to work together as a community to take care of each other. The need never goes away, so please consider joining me as a member of our Family Table monthly giving program—it makes it easy to impact families all year long!

So much good ahead!



Amy Sutton Executive Director

Deana Dunning

Programs and Operations Director

Joannie Becker
Meals on Wheels

Rob Berg

Market Warehouse

Jessica Bierbrauer

Office Administration

Kelly Carter

Development & Community Relations

Sharon Deziel

Marketing & Communications

Open

Rivertown Treasures

Melanie Peters

Rivertown Treasures

Stevi Ritt

Rivertown Treasures

Tammy Rud

Meals on Wheels

Amy Schaffer

Market Food Programs

Maria Slavik

Volunteers

Amy Tix

Emergency Services

HASTINGSFAMILYSERVICE.ORG | 651-437-7134

MEALS ON WHEELS | 651-404-1548

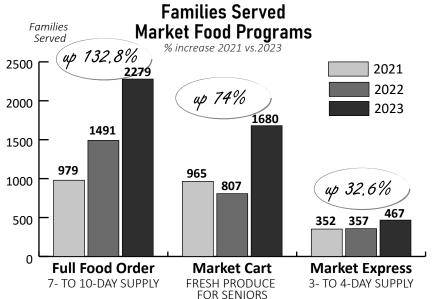
Service Hours

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

Tues-Fri | 9am-4pm Sat | 10am-3pm **Donation Center**

Tues-Fri | 9am-4pm Sat | 10am-3pm

Food Program Growth



Pounds Served All Food Programs

% increase 2021 vs.2023 Total Pounds of Food Served 500000 up 57,3% 425,579 400000 362,768 300000 270,529 200000 100000 2021 2022 2023



Number of people served across all food programs

2022 7,982

2023 11,635

Meals on Wheels

% increase 2021 vs.2023 Meals Delivered 20000 up 27.8% 15,331 15000 14,016 10000 5000 2021 2022 2023

► Food Rescue in Hastings

In 2023 HFS volunteers picked up rescued food from Coborn's, Cub, Kwik Trip, and Walmart several days a week, greatly expanding pounds of food served.

Emergency Grant Funding

HFS facilitated seven times more emergency grant funding in 2023 for assistance with things such as rent deposits, car repairs, and prescriptions.



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.

Every Gift Matters

feeds a family of three for one week

provides one week of meals for summer SPARK program kids

provides two backpacks filled with school supplies

provides 25 families with complete **\$250 Project Share holiday meals**

serves 50 to 60 seniors in a living community fresh produce

How to Help

Donate Food & Care Items

Every pound of food or care items received through April 6 counts towards the proportionate match.

DID

YOU KNOW?

Donating most-needed

in sourcing food and

care items.

MOST NEEDED

- ☐ Flour
- □ Sugar
- ☐ Condiments items helps HFS fill gaps
- ☐ Pasta Sides
- ☐ Rice Sides
- □ Potato Sides
- ☐ Macaroni & Cheese
- □ Ramen
- □ Canned Meats
- ☐ Chunky Soups
- □ Canned Vegetables
- □ Cereal
- ☐ Diapers Sizes 1–5
- ☐ Pull-Ups
- ☐ Feminine Products
- □ Laundry Detergent
- ☐ Dish Soap
- ☐ Razors
- ☐ Paper Grocery Bags



Gifts of Food & Funds Proportion February

Citywide Food Collection

Hastings High School's National Honor Society will be distributing empty paper grocery bags to area households. Simply fill the bag with nonperishable food and personal/household care items, and leave it out on Sunday, March 3, to be picked up from 4 to 6pm.

Reverse Food Truck Events

The HFS Market on the Move van will be collecting food and personal/household care donations at these events:

- COBORN'S HASTINGS March 10 | 11am-1pm
- ALLINA HEALTH HASTINGS CLINIC (1880 N Frontage Rd) March 19 | 11:30am-1:30pm
- **CUB HASTINGS** March 29 | 1-3pm

Community Collection Sites

- Purchase a prepacked grocery bag of most-needed items at Cub in Hastings, located near the registers, and drop it off in the west exit's collection bin.
- Shop and drop off food and care items in one stop using the collection bin at Walmart's pharmacy entrance.



Host a Food & **Fund Drive**

Get information, register your drive, and access promotional materials at hastingsfamilyservice.org.

ately MATCHED by MN FoodShare

26-April 6









4:30-7:30pm | Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

Enjoy delicious cuisine from a variety of local restaurants while participating in a silent auction and raffles. Proceeds from this event are proportionately MATCHED by Minnesota FoodShare to support the HFS Market food shelf.



Tickets \$40

This event sells out quickly—order your tickets today!

Join the Family Table

Provide neighbors with a stable source of help and hope all year long through this monthly giving program. Register online, use the enclosed envelope, or contact HFS if setting up an EFT.





Scan to Join

How to Help

Dine & Donate Events





ALEXIS BAILLY VINEYARD

Drop off nonperishable items in March for HFS; open Fri., Sat, Sun.





T-REX COOKIE | 11am-6pm

525 DIFFLEY ROAD, SUITE 2080, EAGAN HFS receives 20% of sales at this location.





CULVER'S NIGHT | 5-7pm

Ten percent of all sales benefit HFS; dine-in and drive-thru.





TAPROOM TAKEOVER | 4-7pm

Join us at Spiral Brewery; \$1.00 from every beer sold benefits HFS.





CULVER'S NIGHT | 5-7pm

Ten percent of all sales benefit HFS; dine-in and drive-thru.

Volunteers Make it Happen







Food Programs Snapshot

How many volunteers does it take to support all HFS food programs?



317
Active volunteers

500

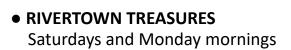
Volunteer shifts per month

Thank you volunteers! HFS couldn't do it without you!

Join the HFS Volunteer Family

Some of our most-needed shifts are as follows:

- MARKET FOOD SHELF
 Wed/Thurs mornings and Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri afternoons
- FOOD RESCUE SORTING Tues/Wed/Fri shifts
- DONATION CENTER
 Friday afternoons





Learn more and apply

Stories of Hope

A first-time shopper left in happy tears recently. After entering the Market for in-person shopping, she was overjoyed to find unlimited fresh produce as well as the variety of meats. Being an avid cook, she was excited to get back home to create healthy and delicious meals for her family. Her shopping trip ended with hugs for the Market volunteer and HFS Food Programs Coordinator Amy Schaffer.

"I just want to say that the Hastings Family Service in town is absolutely amazing. They really helped me out today on groceries for my little family. I'm not the person to ask for help usually, but I had to today and I was very embarrassed doing it, but they welcomed me in with open arms and helped me out tremendously. Thank you!! We are so blessed to be a part of this amazing community."

A Market Shopper

Source: Hastings MN Community Facebook Group

Making a Difference Together



PROJECT SHARE

HOLIDAY GIFTS

205 FAMILIES ADOPTED **841** FAMILY MEMBERS

HOLIDAY MEALS

233 FAMILIES **901** FAMILY MEMBERS Pictured (L-R): Margie, Connie, and Kathy help pack holiday meal boxes.

Thank you to all who shared holiday hope and joy with ISD 200 families! From meeting with neighbors to adopting families to meal packing and gift coordination, HFS is grateful — Project Share couldn't happen without you!



Pictured (L-R): Brian Radke, Kelly Carter, Jay Kochendorfer, Amy Sutton, Mayor Mary Fasbender.

Gobble Gait organizers presented a record-breaking donation of \$130,000 and 2,303 pounds of food to HFS. Thank you to all sponsors, as well as the over 3,000 registrants, volunteers and spectators. Thank you for making Gobble Gait your Thanksgiving Day tradition!

HFS Welcomes New Board Members



Kristy Barse



Kari Gorr



Debbie Grimm



Tony Jurgens

Kristy is Executive Director of the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce; Kari is Director of Community Education Communications for ISD 200; Debbie is Vice President of Retail Banking at North American Banking Company; Tony is an insurance agent with Insurance Works and served three terms in the Minnesota House of Representatives. HFS is grateful to have their experience and expertise!

Thank you to David Fransen and Dr. Nick VenOsdel for your dedicated service on the HFS Board of Directors!

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Katy Lindberg, President Amy Sutton, HFS Executive Director

Dave Wilske, Vice President

Peggy Horsch, Secretary

Kelli Reitzel, Finance Chair

Kristy Barse

Kari Gorr

Debbie Grimm

Brittney Hirschauer

Tony Jurgens

Brandi Poellinger

Rev. Joel Rova-Hegener

Josh Schoaf

Marta Tierney

Stay Connected

Stay up to date—follow us on social media.



hastingsfamilyservice.org







hastingsfamilyservice.org | 651-437-7134



Your Gift is Proportionately Matched in March

During the Minnesota
FoodShare March
Campaign, all
monetary gifts and
pounds of food donated
are proportionately

matched! Use the enclosed envelope or donate online today.



Scan to Give

Hastings Family Service

HELP AND HOPE SINCE 1970 301 Second Street East Hastings, MN 55033

Learn how HFS amplifies your gift on page 3.



HASTINGS TASTINGS

A FEAST FOR MN FOODSHARE

Monday, March 25 4:30-7:30pm

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

Ticket Price: \$40

Tickets available at:

- HFS Donation Center
- Hastings Cub Foods
- Hastings YMCA
- Online



This event sells out quickly order your tickets today!

Sponsored By



Modern Woodmen FRATERNAL FINANCIAL



Drive Out Hunger Golf Tournament

Save the Date! Monday, June 10
Hastings Golf Club

Gather your team for a fun four-person scramble to benefit HFS! Watch for registration to open soon. Sponsorship opportunities available!



Learn More

Tournament Sponsors





