

Hope *in action*



Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign March 1–April 6



Together Help and Hope Happens

Thank you to all who have jumped in to share their time, talents, and generosity amid unprecedented need. The Market food shelf has experienced nearly triple the growth in assistance over the past five years. Help for neighbors happens through you—our

community—ensuring individuals and families

receive nutritious foods and supportive services

to thrive. Gifts of food and funds received through

April 6 make an even greater impact to keep shelves stocked!



**PROPORTIONATE
MATCHING FUNDS
available**

See Pages 4 & 5



MARCH 2026

301 2ND ST E • HASTINGS • MN • 55033 • 651-437-7134



Here to Help

Hello Friends,

Many of our neighbors are living with fear and uncertainty, and we all just want to help. I believe that crisis provides opportunity for creativity and brings community together. As a 501c3 nonprofit, HFS is non-partisan and we do not receive federal funding. We believe in the basic human rights that all neighbors have

a safe place to live and healthy food for their families.

Our primary focus continues to be getting food, personal care items, clothing, and other services into the hands of ALL neighbors who need it. HFS has been adapting processes and working with trusted community partners for months to ensure food and other basics get to our neighbors through safe networks.

HFS is using caution to keep staff, volunteers, and our neighbors safe. We are leaning into our 55-year history of caring for community, and we remain committed to the safety, health and dignity of every family. The best way you can help is to support HFS programs through your financial gifts and volunteerism.

Financial gifts provide the flexibility to respond to needs as they emerge. Right now, there is a dire need for rent/utility assistance to help families maintain safe shelter and internet so children can learn from home. Your gift makes a difference. Volunteers are always needed and it is more important than ever that we follow established processes to keep everyone safe, beginning with an online volunteer application, a background check and an orientation.

With our community alongside us, HFS will continue to prioritize the safety of our team, our community and the neighbors we serve. Your encouragement and support are deeply appreciated.



Amy Sutton

Executive Director

DawnMarie Vihrachoff

Director of Philanthropy

Amy Tix

Director of Programs

Rob Berg

Market Warehouse

Jessica Bierbrauer

Office Administration/Operations

Kyle Bultinck

Food Programs

Sharon Deziel

Marketing & Communications

Michelle Franzmeier

Programs/Just Friends Transportation

Mary Kells

Rivertown Treasures

Natalie Ramirez-Sosa

Programs/Meals on Wheels

Emma Realing

Development & Events

Stevi Ritt

Community Resources/Financial Assistance

Tammy Rud

Meals on Wheels

Maria Slavik

Volunteers

HASTINGS FAMILY SERVICE | 651-437-7134

Service Hours

By phone Mon-Fri | 9am-4pm

In person Mon-Fri | 9am-4pm

Rivertown Treasures & Donation Center

Mon-Fri | 9am-4pm



NEW PHONE NUMBER

651-437-7134

A program of Hastings Family Service

Ext. 106

2025 Community Impact

415,007

Pounds of food distributed across all food programs

239,786

Pounds of food rescued

48%

Of organics food waste fed livestock at local area farms, keeping this waste out of landfills.



Households Served by Food Programs

215

Market Express drive-ups

4,776

Mini Market

988

Market Cart fresh produce

1,614

Market on the Move

3,705

Market Food Shelf full food order

350

Emergency Food Bags

307

Holiday Meals

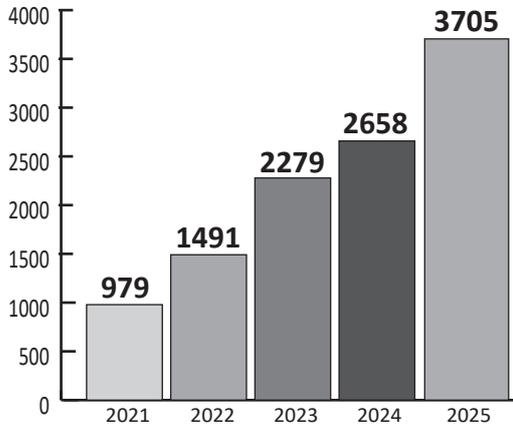
Numbers shown are how often a household received food assistance including multiple visits by the same household.

Market Food Shelf Growth

Full Food Orders

(7-10 day supply)

Families Served



39%

INCREASE IN FAMILIES SERVED SINCE 2024

278%

INCREASE IN FAMILIES SERVED IN THE PAST 5 YEARS

HFS is working hard to increase access to nutritious foods in our community:

- Addition of evening drive-up appointments
- Expansion of the Mini Market now open Monday thru Friday
- Just Friends now offers rides to the Market food shelf or local grocery stores

306

Children received school supplies

73

Teachers received school supplies

1,425

Summer lunches provided to children

\$64,829

Emergency Financial Assistance disbursed

667

Neighbors received clothing/household vouchers

545

Children received holiday gifts through Project Share

1,727

Rides provided via Just Friends Transportation

19,524

Meals delivered by Meals on Wheels volunteers

Donate Food & Care Items

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

MOST NEEDED

- Ramen
- Canned Meats
- Chunky Soups
- Canned Vegetables
- Cereal
- Diapers
- Pull-Ups
- Feminine Products
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Paper Grocery Bags

DID YOU KNOW?

Donating most-needed items helps HFS fill gaps in sourcing food and care items.



Offer Hope

Gifts of Food & Funds Proportion

March 1

NHS Food Collection Sunday, March 8

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 8**, to be picked up from 4 to 6pm.

Register Round Up



Shop at Spiral Food Co-op during March and round up your purchase at the register to benefit the Market food shelf!

Culver's Night Monday, March 16 | 5-7PM



Treat the family to a delicious dinner and 10% of all dine-in and drive-thru sales benefit HFS.

Taproom Takeover Wednesday, March 25 | 4-6PM



Join us at Spiral Brewery for a night of musical CARE-oke with a portion of beverages benefiting HFS.

Collection Sites

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

Proportionately MATCHED by MN FoodShare

April 6



WATCH FOR OUR GROWING LIST OF PARTICIPANTS!

MARCH 30



HASTINGS TASTINGS

A FEAST FOR MN FOODSHARE

4:30–7:30pm

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

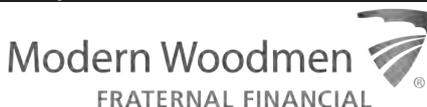
Enjoy delicious sips and tastings from a variety of local restaurants while participating in a silent auction and raffles. Proceeds from this event are proportionately MATCHED by Minnesota FoodShare to support the HFS Market food shelf.



Tickets \$55

This event sells out quickly—order your tickets today!

Sponsored By



Join the Family Table in March

and your first gift will be proportionately MATCHED by MN FoodShare. Provide neighbors with a stable source of help and hope all year long through this monthly giving program. For a “no fee” ACH option, enclose a voided check and HFS will send you the required bank form for your signature. You can also sign up online.



Scan to Join

HFS Volunteers are SUN-sational!



2025 Volunteer Snapshot

Join the HFS Volunteer Family

ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS



545

VOLUNTEER HOURS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| On site at HFS | 13,779 |
| Across food programs | 12,602 |
| Just Friends Transportation | 1,374 |
| Other (board, events, miscellaneous) | 656 |

VALUE OF HFS VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS

28,411 = 13.6

Volunteer Hours Full-time employees

\$1,084,164 Service value donated

Thank you volunteers!

Weekly and substitute volunteers needed:

- MARKET FOOD SHELF
- FOOD RESCUE SORTING
- VOLUNTEER RECEPTIONIST
- DONATION CENTER



Learn more and apply

Gratitude Guides Us

From neighbors served:

"I am grateful for all the services Hastings Family Service has to offer and all the hardworking volunteers that give their time and energy to help others."

"I'm very thankful and full of gratitude for the needed services you provide. When my cupboards are bare, and I have no funds, I know there is a place I'm welcome to go, and that's Hastings Family Service."

Making a Difference Together



Pictured (L-R): DawnMarie Vihrachoff, Amy Sutton, Jay Kochendorfer, Mayor Mary Fasbender, Brian Radke, Matthew Radke.

Gobble Gait Shares Record Gift

Gobble Gait set an incredible new record of generosity in 2025 with the Thanksgiving race raising \$150,000 to support Hastings Family Service! Thank you to presenting sponsors Edward Jones Hovgaard Wealth Management Team and North American Banking Company, as well as the many area business sponsors, over 3,000 registrants, volunteers, and spectators who continue to make Gobble Gait your Thanksgiving Day tradition!



Thank you to Treasure Island Resort & Casino's staff who spent time volunteering at HFS.

Island Impact

HFS was honored to be chosen as the Island Impact Charity of the Month for January by Treasure Island Resort & Casino and Prairie Island Indian Community, receiving a gift of \$53,000 to support programs! In addition, they hosted an HFS volunteer appreciation event at The Island featuring a "Volunteers are SUN-sational" theme.

Photos page 6.

HFS Welcomes New Board Members



Jen Fox



Andrew Langbehn

Joining the board is Jen Fox, owner of Spiral Brewery, and Pastor Andrew Langbehn of Branchline Church. HFS is grateful to have their experience and expertise!

Thank you to Brittney Hirschauer and Rev. Joel Rova-Hegener for your dedicated service on the HFS Board of Directors!

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Kelli Reitzel, *President*
- Tony Jurgens, *Vice President*
- Kari Gorr, *Secretary*
- Debbie Grimm, *Finance Chair*
- Kristy Barse
- Jen Fox
- Peggy Horsch
- Andrew Langbehn
- Kris Morken
- Brandi Poellinger
- Josh Schoaf
- Bryan Schowalter
- Marta Tierney
- Amy Sutton, *HFS Executive Director*

Stay Connected

Stay up to date—follow us on social media.



[hastingsfamilyservice](https://www.hastingsfamilyservice.org)

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

[hastingsfamilyservice.org](https://www.hastingsfamilyservice.org)

Sign Up for The Dish

Receive monthly updates delivered to your email inbox.





Your Gift is Proportionately Matched in March

During the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign, all monetary gifts and pounds of food donated are proportionately matched! Please consider a gift using the enclosed envelope or donate online today.



Scan to Give

55 YEARS 1970-2025
Hastings Family Service
CELEBRATING HELP AND HOPE
301 Second Street East
Hastings, MN 55033

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

Learn more on pages 4 & 5.

HASTINGS TASTINGS

A FEAST FOR MN FOODSHARE

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

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

Ticket Price: \$55

Tickets available at:

- HFS Donation Center
- Online



*This event sells out quickly.
Order your tickets today!*

Sponsored By



Drive Out Hunger Golf Tournament

Monday, June 8
Hastings Golf Club

Team up for a fun four-person scramble to benefit HFS.



Learn More

Tournament Sponsors



www.hastingsautos.com

