



19th Annual Fundraiser for ICA Food Shelf & ResourceWest

March 7, 2017 • 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Hopkins Center for the Arts
1111 Mainstreet, Hopkins

To: All Members of Our Community

From: 2017 Community Co-Chairs

Amy Saldanha

Founder & CEO, Kiddywampus

ResourceWest Board Member

Ron Kamps

Community Leader

ICA Food Shelf Board Member

Subject: **Help raise \$80,000 to “fill the empty bowls” of our neighbors in need**

What is Empty Bowls?

Fueled by a passion for creativity and a desire to help our neighbors in need, Hopkins Public Schools art teachers and leaders at Hopkins Community Education founded our local Empty Bowls fundraiser. Since 1999, art students and community potters have created hundreds of unique soup bowls for this soup meal event that supports the work of ResourceWest and ICA Food Shelf in our community.

Our fundraising goal this year is \$80,000 – to reach a 19-year total of over \$1.1 million!

Are there “empty bowls” in our community?

Our local community support agencies provide much more than food for our neighbors in need.

- **ICA Food Shelf** serves the seven communities in and around Hopkins and Minnetonka. The food shelf provides food, financial and homelessness prevention services, and employment assistance to over 850 households that use ICA’s programs each month. In 2016, more than 1.47 million pounds of food were distributed through the choice-based model food shelf. It also provides Hopkins and Minnetonka schools with weekend food and snack programs for students in need. The mobile food shelf program helps over 300 neighbors with physical limitations receive fresh food each week.
- **ResourceWest**, located in downtown Hopkins, works to connect and stabilize individuals and families in the west metro through social services, youth programs, and on site collaborative programs. Each year ResourceWest makes over 10,000 resource connections for people seeking food, housing, healthcare, jobs, education, transportation and more. In 2016, ResourceWest provided over 1,200 children with school supplies, winter warm wear, and holiday gifts. The social services program provided 36 financial grants for car repairs, prescriptions, and childcare. And over 800 households in crisis caused by homelessness, sudden loss of income, health issues, or transportation issues were provided with short-term case management assistance.

How can I help “fill the empty bowls?”

- Invite family & friends to join you at the event on March 7: choose your favorite free bowl, enjoy a free meal of soup & bread and entertainment, and make a generous free will donation.
- Be a sponsor in the **SUPERVALU** Challenge! You decide your sponsorship level, and be recognized on all print materials at the event. Sponsors of \$250 or more will have their logo or name prominently displayed.
- Make a ceramic soup bowl in a Hopkins Community Education class in February.
- Be an in-kind sponsor of soup, bread, coffee, or other needed materials.
- Volunteer at the event. Musicians and choral groups are invited to perform at the event.
- Donate a fine art bowl or related art for the silent auction.
- Schools may include hunger issues in the curriculum, bowl making in art classes, or promotional poster design in art and tech classes; students and staff may volunteer or perform at the event.

www.HopkinsSchools.org/EmptyBowls • www.facebook.com/HopkinsEmptyBowls

Kate Wilinski, Community Engagement Officer at ICA Food Shelf
(952) 279-0290 • kate@icafoodshelf.org