

Oshkosh Empty Bowls
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PRESS RELEASE

Filling An Empty Bowl
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OSHKOSH, WI - Next month a favorite community event will be returning to Downtown Oshkosh but in a new venue. Empty Bowls is a fundraiser for Oshkosh food pantries and for 2022 it's growing with a new location at The Howard.

Guests of the event can sample over 20 different varieties of soup, listen to live music, and enjoy great company while raising money to fight hunger. Tickets for the event include soup but also a ceramic bowl that is taken home as a keepsake. It represents those in our community who often find their bowls empty and the impact individuals can make to fight hunger and help feed our neighbors.

The display of hand painted ceramic bowls is a testament to the community support. The tables will be overflowing with art as the organizers showcase over 300 bowls donated by individuals and organizations in Oshkosh who want to support our local food pantries. And it's clear the support extends to local restaurants as the event requires over 100 gallons of soup to be successful.

"The most effective way to help our food pantries is through monetary donations" says Jody Harrell who leads the Empty Bowls planning. Supporting pantries through food drives is helpful but pantries can make the biggest impact when they can purchase food directly. Over \$11,000 was donated to local pantries as a result of the last fundraiser. And now this year's success is more important than ever as food pantries continue to see increased need, and the effects of inflation and rising food costs affect how far their dollar is stretched.

The fundraiser exemplifies the best of Oshkosh as it truly requires a lot of community partnerships to be successful. This community fundraiser ends up filling empty bowls long after the last soup spoon has been cleaned. You can purchase tickets now for the Sunday May 15th event online at OshkoshEmptyBowls.com. Reach out to the planning team if you have questions, would like to volunteer, or become an event sponsor :
OshkoshEmptyBowls@gmail.com