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MINNESOTA'S FREE FOOD BANK

Need for Thanksgiving Meals Skyrocketing in Twin Cities

New Hope, Minnesota – Registration for Baskets of Hope holiday meal packages took about 10 days last year, but this year's demand has caused registration to fill five times as quickly.

“We opened the registration for the Baskets of Hope program today and already received over 1,000 registrations,” said Emergency Foodshelf Network (EFN)’s Executive Director, Tim Barnes. Our goal is to help a total of 35,000 individuals for the Thanksgiving and December holidays.

“We need individuals and businesses who are able to step up and help meet the need if they are able,” said Barnes. “With the need for emergency food assistance rising an average of 38 percent, it doesn’t surprise me the high demand is causing us to ask for holiday support much earlier than we usually have. We need cash donations to keep Baskets of Hope registration open as long as possible. At this rate, we will run out of food.”

EFN’s Baskets of Hope program supplements food given out by local foodshelves during the holidays by distributing free holiday meal packs. November and December Baskets of Hope contain a turkey or ham (or meat substitute), potatoes, vegetables, and all the fixings for a complete holiday meal, right down to coffee and fruit pie.

Every \$30 the Emergency Foodshelf Network collects towards Baskets of Hope will help feed a family of eight. Your support will provide local families the joy of gathering around the table with loved ones to enjoy a traditional holiday meal.

For more information about how to support the rising need this holiday season, visit www.emergencyfoodshelf.org or call EFN at (763)450-3860.

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The Emergency Foodshelf Network is a local nonprofit food bank that collects, warehouses and distributes high quality food and essential support services to Minnesota hunger relief organizations.