

Dear [[salutation]],

Hunger is on the rise in Elgin, and all of Bastrop County! We are committed to addressing the alarming increase in hunger throughout this area. In the first 7 months of the year, the Food Pantry has served 3,922 people—a 30% increase from 2022.

We are proposing an alliance and invite you to be part of it: **on Saturday, November 11—at the SPJST Lodge, 702 Highway 95 S, Elgin, TX 78621—from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**, local chefs will be joining forces to produce **Elgin’s 6th “Empty Bowl Project”**. As part of a national campaign to combat hunger and its root causes, these events showcase the culinary talents of local restaurants and raise both awareness of hunger and funds enabling the Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry to serve the needy.

We invite you to add your talents to the mix...by presenting and serving **5-10 gallons** of each type of soup, stew, or chili of your creation to the 200 expected attendees. In addition to the broad recognition the event brings to participating providers, a panel of judges will bestow bragging rights for “bests” in five categories: 1) cream-based soup, 2) broth-based soup, 3) chili, 4) stew, and 5) table presentation. Attendees will also have their say by voting for their “Fan Favorite” from among all providers. Winners and runners-up will be announced before 1 p.m., and we will follow up with local print and social media afterward.

Meanwhile, we have **enclosed details of the event and a form to confirm your participation.**

Sincerely,

Tresha Silva,
Executive Director
Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry

ELGIN EMPTY BOWL EVENT

Restaurant Confirmation for Saturday, November 11, 2023

Event details for participating restaurants:

- **Event set-up:** Please arrive at the SPJST, [702 Highway 95 S, Elgin, TX 78621](#) on Saturday, November 11 between 9:30-10 a.m. (**but no later than 10 a.m.**) for set up.

You may unload in front of the main area near the building; parking is available back of the parking lot. Volunteers will assist with unloading. All soups must be ready for judging at **10:20 a.m. and for public service by 11 a.m.**

If you need the Pantry to assign volunteers to serve your soup, please contact us immediately at 512-303-0033.

- Feel free to bring your menus, business cards, and promotional coupons and to decorate your table space. No “off-table” decorations please! (**There will be a “Best Table Presentation” award!**)
- Each provider will be assigned a **6-foot table**, draped with a **black floor length table covering**. Table assignments will be based upon power requirement as specified on the confirmation form you submit.

Electrical service for high wattage appliances is very limited; please consider using chafing dishes. If you will use an electrical heating appliance, please bring an extension cord rated for your appliance and please advise us by **NOVEMBER 3rd of the electrical requirements of your appliance.**

- Volunteers will be available to direct you to your assigned table. **The Pantry will provide an initial supply of disposable 6 oz. bowls, spoons, and napkins** (and will replenish supplies as needed during the event).
- **Soups on!** Doors open to the public promptly at 11 a.m.; the event ends at 1:30 p.m. Judges’ awards and the “Fan Favorite” award will be announced before 1 p.m. All award winners will be publicized in local media and on social media after the event.

2023 Elgin Empty Bowl Event



SCAN QR CODE FOR THE SOUP VENDOR FORM

If you have any questions at all, please contact Tresha Silva at the Pantry (512-303-0033) or by email (director@bastropfoodpantry.org). **If you are interested, you can scan the QR code to fill out the form online.**

<https://forms.gle/L7QEVNZzru7QpZmu7>

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12th, 5th ANNUAL ELGIN EMPTY BOWL

Restaurant Confirmation

Name of restaurant _____

Name of soup, stew or chili to be provided _____ Dollar Value: _____

If more than one offering is provided, please copy this form and complete a separate confirmation for each offering.

Category (check one)
<input type="checkbox"/> cream-based soup
<input type="checkbox"/> broth-based soup
<input type="checkbox"/> chili
<input type="checkbox"/> stew

Quantity of soup (named above) that we will provide (check one)
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 gallons
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 or more gallons

Electrical service needed for our equipment (check one)
<input type="checkbox"/> none: We will use a chafing dish.
<input type="checkbox"/> crockpot (wattage _____)
<input type="checkbox"/> roaster (wattage _____)

The information you provide will be used to determine table assignments, power access and place cards. Your confirmation will also be used as the basis for judging and for pre-event publicity. Please complete and **FAX this form to (512) 321-4544**. Contact Tresha Silva at director@bastropfoodpantry.org or (512) 303-0033 if you have any questions or need to make changes to your offering. **THANK YOU!**

Contact: _____ Cell phone number: _____

Email: _____

Please confirm your participation no later than **October 23, 2023**

The deadline for changes or substitutions will be 4:00 p.m., **Friday, November 3rd, 2023.**