



[[addressee]]  
[[street]]  
[[city]], [[state]] [[postal\_code]]

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. The Food Pantry has already served over 4,000 people! We experienced an 89% increase in requests for food and support services between 2020 and 2023!

We are inviting you into an alliance to help our neighbors: 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Elgin Empty Bowl Event on **Saturday, November 9—at the SPJST Lodge, 702 Highway 95 S, Elgin, TX 78621—from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Local chefs, like yourself, will be joining forces to combat hunger and its root causes, showcase the culinary talents of local restaurants, and raise both awareness of hunger and funds for the Food Pantry.

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**. Forms are **due October 21<sup>st</sup>!**

Sincerely,

Tresha Silva,  
Executive Director  
Bastrop County Emergency Food Pantry



# ELGIN EMPTY BOWL EVENT

## Saturday, November 9, 2024

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### Event details for participating restaurants & Caterer

- **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 requirements 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 4th** of the electrical requirements of your appliance(s).**

- Volunteers will be available to direct you to your assigned table. **The Pantry will provide an initial supply of disposable 4 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.

Scan To Sign Up As a Soup Vendor



2024 Elgin Empty Bowl

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

<https://forms.gle/Wm7yF4FMjBT26dw98> (**DUE OCTOBER 21!**)