



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Beth Burrell
Director of Communications
bburrell@pittsburghfoodbank.org
c: 412-977-7026

Ken Regal
Executive Director, Just Harvest
kenr@justharvest.org
p: 412-431-8960 ext.115

Meet the makers: Empty Bowls event serving soup with new twist

Event benefits the Food Bank, Just Harvest

Duquesne, PA (February 28 , 2025) – Slated for Sunday, April 6, this year’s Empty Bowls Dinner, presented by Highmark, will serve up a community meal to nearly 1,500 people in an effort to help end hunger across the region. Taking place at Rodef Shalom Congregation in Oakland, the 28th Annual event will offer a simple meal of soup and bread benefiting Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank (the Food Bank) and Just Harvest.

In addition to the meal, attendees will select a ceramic bowl made by local artisans and students to take home as a reminder of our neighbors facing hunger. New this year, attendees at the third seating will have the chance to meet the chefs and artisans who created the soups and the handmade bowls.

“Neighbors across our region are beyond their financial breaking point. What used to be an emergency need, is now a long-term reality for so many who can’t afford the basic necessities,” shared Lisa Scales, president and CEO of the Food Bank. “Participating in Empty Bowls is a public way of saying, ‘you’re not alone.’ It’s encouraging to see the care and passion to support our neighbors in trying times.”

Like last year, the event will have three dine-in seatings; a soup & bowl takeout option; and the opportunity to purchase soup-to-go. Tickets are \$30 ahead and \$35 at the door. Children under the age of three can enter the event without a ticket.

Each seating will accommodate 450 dine-in guests and 125 Soup & Bowl Takeout guests. Seating times for the event are 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.; 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.; and 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

“Since 1996, Empty Bowls has shown the power of community cooperation in the fight for food justice for all. Bowl makers, soup chefs, volunteers, ticket buyers, corporate sponsors, and many others join with Just Harvest and the Food Bank to lift up the needs of our neighbors whose bowls are empty. It's truly inspiring!” says Ken Regal, Executive Director of Just Harvest.

Ceramic bowls and pottery for auction have been donated by local ceramicists, schools from elementary to college and community arts organizations. Soup is donated by dozens of restaurants and caterers throughout the Greater Pittsburgh area.

Tickets are now on sale at pittsburghfoodbank.org/emptybowls and are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door.

###