

ENSURING EVERY NEIGHBOR HAS A MEAL THAT'S RIGHT FOR THEM



Two of Minnesota's largest and most-trusted nonprofits come together in support of \$5 million in new, ongoing funds to provide prepared meals to Minnesotans facing food insecurity and barriers to cooking.

THE NEED

- For far too many people facing hunger, **receiving food only solves part of the problem.**
- In 2021, Second Harvest Heartland supported over **813,000 people** seeking food assistance. 15% of clients identified a need for prepared meals.
- The Boston Consulting Group estimates that even with the current landscape of government programs and nonprofit meal providers, **only half of the need in Minnesota is being met.**
- Clients include individuals and families with **inconsistent access to a kitchen**, people with challenges caused by physical **mobility issues or illness**, or those who are managing a **crisis, challenge or time of transition.**
- **Meals are targeted** to those who aren't eligible for other federally funded meal programs for youth or older adults.

THE COMMUNITY

- Bringing meals to the **communities facing the biggest meal gaps** in Minnesota.
- Meal distribution supported by these funds will reach across Minnesota, with a focus on the communities that have the greatest need, including **communities of color and rural Minnesota counties.**
- **Meals help amplify the work of nonprofits** that distribute meals, bringing people together and making other work easier, like education, unhoused outreach, mental health support or providing childcare.
- Funding invests in **supporting local nonprofits and businesses** who help create and distribute meals.

THE MEALS

- **Nutritionally balanced** meals are customized to the communities being served.
- Meals are crafted based on the **dietary and cultural needs of clients**, and each meal contains a protein, starch and vegetable.
- Meals prioritize using **rescued or donated food** from the food banking network, along with **locally produced** or processed ingredients, to keep overall costs down and support Minnesota's agricultural industry.

OUR ASK

\$5 million in ongoing funds to provide an estimated **750,000 prepared meals** each year for Minnesotans in need.