

Steele County Food Shelf Mission Statement: The Mission of the Steele County Food Shelf is to provide nutritious food to the hungry; promote client self-sufficiency; identify causes and effects of hunger; make referrals to additional resources and advocate and educate primarily through the work of volunteers.

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Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday

9:00am—5:30pm

Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday

9:00am-3:30pm

Saturday

8:00am-11:30am

an agency of:



HOMETOWN SAMPLER-MARCH 4—6



For the past twenty-three years, musicians from the Owatonna area have gotten together to play acoustic music to raise money for the Steele County Food Shelf. Named “The Hometown Sampler”, the event is the one and only annual fund raiser for SCFS. A free will donation of cash or packaged food is the price of admission. SCFS board members and U.S. Bank employees will be on hand to accept your gift at the door. If you haven’t gone to the Sampler before, you’ve missed something great. If you’ve come before, you know you don’t want to miss it.

The two-hour show features four groups of local accomplished musicians who have come together to play (for free)

to raise awareness about hunger and food insecurity in Steele County. This year’s bands are: Bad Tangerines, The Gogs, Hot ‘n’ Bothered, and Mile 5 Band.

If you can’t catch the first show, you’ll have three more chances with two shows on Saturday and a matinee on Sunday. We’ve had to turn people away before for a lack of seating so, to be guaranteed a seat in the “Little Theatre”, get there early. If you’re on the fence about attending, go to YouTube and type “Hometown Sampler” in the search bar. Among other offerings, you might enjoy watching and listening to “Hot ‘N’ Bothered” band member Mike Chinander singing “The Letter” in the style of Joe

Cocker or “What’d I Say” in the style of Ray Charles. Mike will be back this year with the band.

The Hometown Sampler is not only a great time but also represents a significant donation by the musicians, their families, and the many, many people behind the scenes who help the Steele County Food Shelf kick off the month of significant fund raising. This year’s goal is to raise at least \$23,000.00 or \$1,000.00 for every year the Sampler has been performed.

Please join us for great entertainment and thank you for supporting Steele County Food Shelf.

MARCH MINNESOTA FOOD SHARE MONTH

For 33 years, Minnesota Food Share has been partnering with local food shelves to help our neighbors in need. The March Campaign is an annual state-wide effort and is the only one of its kind. Each and every dollar and pound donated to par-

ticipating food shelves during the month of March is reported to Minnesota Food Share. Participating food shelves, including Steele Co. Food Shelf, are then awarded a check from Minnesota Food Share based on the percentage of food and

funds their organization received during the month of March. All funds go directly for the purchase of food. This year’s March fundraising goal for the Steele County Food Shelf is 100,000 dollars or pounds of food.

Address: 155 Oakdale St, Suite A Owatonna, MN 55060 telephone: (507)455-2991 fax: (507)455-4063

website: www.steelecountyfoodshelf.org email: stormy@steelecountyfoodshelf.org facebook: [steelecountyfoodshelf](https://www.facebook.com/steelecountyfoodshelf)

Canadian Pacific's Holiday Train in December

The Holiday Train stopped in Owatonna late afternoon on December 6. The weather cooperated! The large crowd of over 2,000 people were entertained before the train's arrival by the OHS Carolers and Ryan Gillespie. The DECA students served lots of hot cocoa and cookies.

Both sides of the train's

stage opened to the great music of Kira Isabella and Doc Walker.

A check for \$7,500 was presented to SCFS Director Stormy and Mayor Tom. Much appreciated along with the hundreds of pounds of food and cash donations collected from the community.



Exceptional Volunteers

In January 2016, Food Shelf Director Stormy Trom took a much deserved three-week vacation.

During her absence--and the illness of Alonso Hernandez, several of our volunteers stepped up to keep the doors open at the

Food Shelf.

We would like to recognize the extra time and effort put forth by Bev Collette in overseeing our operation along with Molly Urness, Bonnie Weeks, Char Sethney, Kathy Glynn, Dante Rand, Diane Hendricks and Linn Bruns. (If we have

omitted anyone, please accept our apologies.)

Maureen Schlobohm and Alysia Stephen from the Steele County Clothesline (next door) were good neighbors and helped when needed.

Thank you to them and all our SCFS volunteers.

Alonso in Need of Get Well Wishes

Alonso Hernandez, Steele County Food Shelf Manager, has been dealing with some health issues, which has made it difficult to work his normal schedule.

Alonso has worked at SCFS for more than

eleven years and is a familiar, friendly face to all. Many have asked about him.

We would like to encourage all of you to send get well cards and messages!

Just send them to:

Alonso %
SCFS, 155 Oakdale St,
Suite A, Owatonna, MN
55060.

They will be forwarded to him. *Thank you.*



Stormy's Corner

At the beginning of each year, our clients are interviewed and their records updated. Our neighbor, Steele County Clothesline, uses the same joint application and has corresponding hours to ours. This is a wonderful collaborative effort and we will share additional details as we further our relationship with a goal of serving our clients with ease and understanding.

Thanks to the many SCFS volunteers who so ably handled this process while I was on vacation. We are all appreciative of your commitment!

This past year SCFS served 1086 households and 3083 individuals 451,688# of food!

Thanks to everyone for your year-round support. March is MN Food Share month where many of your contributions are matched through this state-wide program. Thank you for all your donations this month.

See you at the Sampler!

New SCFS Directors

Tom Hyland

Originally from Stewartville, Minnesota, Tom Hyland is a recent (November 2015) retiree of Federated Insurance. He was a 36+ year employee and retired as a process manager. Tom knew that he wanted to have a second career -- as a volunteer.

The first place he went to offer his services was the Steele County Food Shelf. "And they found something for me to do," he said.

Tom and his wife Lisa are the parents of six daughters. They have nine grandchildren-- "with one on the way." He enjoys reading, travel, and sports. He is a big fan of the Minne-

sota Wild.

Thank you, Tom, for volunteering and for agreeing to serve on the Board of the Steele County Food Shelf.



Mike Johnson



Originally from St. Paul, Mike Johnson came to Owatonna in

2001. Since that time, he has served as the fire chief for the City of Owatonna and as the emergency management director for Steele County.

He became involved with the Steele County Food Shelf when he coordinated the visits of the Holiday Food Train to the county. As such, he worked closely with Food Shelf Director Stormy Trom.

She mentioned "You should be on the Board" -- and Mike said "yes."

Mike does a lot of volunteering and has served on numerous boards, including the Minnesota Fire Chiefs' Association and the Riverbend Nature Center.

Thanks, Mike, for saying "yes" when asked. We truly appreciate your willingness to serve.

Board of Directors

Stormy Trom, Director
Alonso Hernandez, Manager

OFFICERS:

Dr. David Dow, President,
Owatonna
Vice President OPEN
Betsy Kennedy-Lindgren,
Secretary, Owatonna
Dan Struss, Treasurer,
Owatonna

DIRECTORS:

Rev. Dick Hegal, Blooming
Prairie
Tom Hyland, Owatonna
Nancy Janke, Owatonna
Mike Johnson, Owatonna
Louanne Kaupa, RD, LN
Owatonna
Lois Nelson, Medford
Priscilla Rietz, Owatonna
Vickie Skala, Owatonna
Shane Wrede, Owatonna

A very BIG 'thank you' to outgoing Board members-Linda Hoffman & Kent Rossi for sharing your talents and commitment all these years to SCFS.

Will SCFS and other providers have a new home in 2016?

"Co-location", a topic introduced in an earlier SCFS newsletter, continues to gain momentum as additional non-profit and other agencies from Steele County are expressing interest in both the concept of togetherness and the convenience in serving many of the same clients under one roof.

In addition to expanding at our current location, this group has also looked at three sites in Owatonna. There are necessary modifications to any of these existing sites. We already identified that architectural studies would be required to modify any facility to bring it to current building code standards. Additionally, if any plans are to include living accommodations i.e. emergency housing or market-rate senior housing, a whole host of additional code requirements come into place.

Then, there is always the building of a new facility. There are some advantages to doing this---each agency would have design input into accommodating their current needs with possibility of future growth included. Site location for easy access for our clients, adequate parking for them, volunteers, visitors, and staff all need to be discussed and considered.

Reality is always there too as we discuss leasing space, buying outright---the majority of us are non-profits! Currently we are exploring grant sources and funders and willing to explore other buildings and locations. With each opportunity, more questions arise!



155 Oakdale Street, Suite A
Owatonna MN 55060

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 311
Owatonna, MN 55060

Hometown Sampler

March 4—6



*Little Theatre of
Owatonna
560A Dunnell Drive*

23rd Annual Hometown Sampler to kick off Minnesota Food Share Month

Thanks to all of these talented musicians for the many hours of rehearsal, fun and performance they have again committed to the Sampler this year.

You are the best!

Hot 'N ' Bothered:

Jessica Dant, Vianna Bohlen, Colin Whalen, Mike Chinander, John Lestock, Paul Kunkel, and Kristen Endrud

Mile 5:

Noah DeKam, Logan Johnson, Ben Konold, DJ Chatelaine, and Gavin Glynn

Bad Tangerines:

Jodi DeKam, Tim VanGelder, Mark Sebring, Michael and Tammi Ferch

The Gogs:

Dan Leer, David Schroeder, John Weisenburger, Lindsey Hugstad-Vaa, Mark Anderson, Marcia Anderson, Karin Anderson, and David Dow

Show Times

Friday, March 4 - 7:00pm

Saturday, March 5 - 3:00pm and 7:00pm

Sunday, March 6 - 1:30pm

The two-hour show features four groups of local accomplished musicians who have come together to entertain you and to raise awareness about hunger and food insecurity in Steele County.

If you can't catch the first show, you'll have three more chances with two shows on Saturday and a matinee on Sunday. We've had to turn people away before for a lack of seating so, to be guaranteed a seat in the "Little Theatre", get there early.

A very special thanks to all our sponsors for supporting the majority of the Sampler expenses so your donations go to replacing food items at SCFS.

**Express
Employment Professionals**

Federated Insurance

Gopher Sport

Kent D. Rossi Law Office

KOWZ

**Owatonna Granite
& Monument Inc**

U. S. Bank

A goal of SCFS in 2016 is to update our mailing list and build an email data base for those of you who would like to receive our newsletter electronically. Please confirm BOTH your mailing and email address to: newsletter@steelecountyfoodshelf.org