



Greetings!

The weather is getting cooler and comfort food is starting to be on people's minds; and what could be more comforting than Soup?

Minnesota Valley Action Council is enlisting 20 restaurants for our 5th Annual "Warm Your Heart" gourmet soup event. Last year's event raised over \$30,000 to help create the MVAC Car Repair Education and Loan fund.

This event will be held on March 4, 2017 at the MSU Student Union Ballroom and we couldn't be more excited to return for another year! We would love for your restaurant to be a part of this great event!

NEW THIS YEAR! Because of the popularity of this event we are asking that you bring 4 gallons of your best soup, and an auction item with a minimum \$50 value. The feedback that we got was fantastic and everyone had a great time.

Please say yes and join us in March. It's easy to sign up! Just fill out the form on the other side and either mail it or scan it.

2017 Warm Your Heart proceeds to benefit the Car Repair Loan & Education Program:

Last year MVAC started the Car Repair and Loan Program with proceeds from the 2016 Warm Your Heart Benefit. Since the inception of this program in June of 2016 MVAC has held three car classes equipping about 30 low-income people with the knowledge needed to extend the life of their vehicles and minimize their transportation expenses. Has assessed and inspected 18 vehicles so far and given expert opinion on each vehicle. 14 of those vehicles received a free oil change at a reputable shop to encourage relationship-building with facilities that can be trusted. Have approved and implemented six \$150 micro-loans to perform crucial maintenance, prevent small problems from escalating into crisis situations, and ensure that those in need can continue to get to and from work. Authorized one major repair (a transmission replacement) so a low-income person can accept a job offer and move toward self-sufficiency. We've also had a local repair shop donate \$1000 worth of free repairs which helped four people in dire need. **In all, we've made 34 lives better so far and we see the program continuing to build.**

By providing this new initiative, MVAC will follow its mission by providing:

"Transportation" to working families ~

"Education" to maintain a vehicle and budget for repairs ~

"Emergency Needs" to repair vehicles to get to work

TO GUARENTEE YOUR SPOT PLEASE REGISTER ASAP!!!

2017 Warm Your Heart Soup Registration Contract

Restaurant _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

On behalf of my restaurant, I, the below signed, submit my Contract to serve as a Soup Sponsor for Minnesota Valley Action Council's **Warm Your Heart fundraiser** to be held Saturday, March 4, 2017.

I understand that I am responsible to:

- Provide someone to serve the soup
- Provide 4 gallons of soup to enter in the competition
- Provide an auction item with a value of at least \$50

Signature _____ Date _____

Please sign, make a copy for your business and return this copy to:
Warm Your Heart, MVAC, 706 N Victory Dr., Mankato, MN 56001 or FAX: 507-345-2414
or scan to sheila@mnavac.org

Soup Sponsor includes:

- Restaurant name displayed in media promotions
- Restaurant logo/name on rolling slide show evening of the event
- Restaurant name printed in the program evening of the event
- Allowance to bring advertisement (Poster, coupons etc...) to display that evening
- Invited to stay after the awards and enjoy the evening

**Trophies for People's Choice award
and the Judges Choice award will be for
"Most Unique Soup"**

Warm Your Heart Restaurant Contacts:

Sheila Ous, Chair 345-2416 sheila@mnavac.org ~ Ann Macgregor, 345-0459 ann@mnavac.org

Katie Kassube, Kassube.catherine@wmn.sysco.com

Committee members:

Betty Ouren, MinnStar Bank; Lynn Sorenson, MVAC; Rita Browne, MVAC; Mike Oliver, Farmers Insurance; George Blais, Alpha Media; Randy Rigdon, MIO; Geralynn Kottschade, Jerry's Auto; Leah Macgregor, Spherion Staffing Services; Deb Ikier, BankVista