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Hands4Hope - Youth Making A Difference Will Serve Soup and Smiles while Combating Hunger at 25th Empty Bowls Dinner

For the 25th year, Empty Bowls Dinner in Placerville will offer the community a chance to gather, enjoy a delicious meal, and raise funds to fight hunger in El Dorado County and beyond. The event will take place on Saturday, March 8, 2025 from 4 to 7 pm at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds in the Forni Building.

Families and guests will enjoy delicious soup and fresh bread served in a keepsake handmade ceramic bowl, donated by artists and schools from throughout the region. Coloma Celtic will entertain attendees with their upbeat great Americana Celtic folk sounds, and vendor booths will offer educational materials about the issue of hunger and handmade and curated wares for purchase. Wine, beer, and a large selection of desserts will also be available for purchase.

The funds raised from this event will support organizations fighting food insecurity. The organizations chosen to be the beneficiaries this year are: La proMesa Familiar (El Dorado County), Upper Room Dining Hall (Placerville), Hands4Hope Emergency Food Pantry (Placerville), and Earth's Angels (Ghana).

The event is organized by Hands4Hope - Youth Making A Difference's after-school Empty Bowls Committee, consisting of 16 middle and high school youth, 7 of whom are leading the effort. The Committee also has the support of 12 adult mentors. This event was led for 23 years by the El Dorado Peace and Justice Community, with assistance for several years by Hands4Hope participants. In 2024, the event leadership transitioned to this youth-led Hands4Hope Committee. Empty Bowls is a nationwide grassroots effort to fight hunger.

Tickets at the door are \$25 for adults with a \$5 discount for advance online purchase, youth are \$15 and children age 4 and under are free. Sponsorships start at just \$150 and include event

tickets. Tickets, sponsorships, and more information can be found on the event website at <u>hands4hopeyouth.org/emptybowls</u>.

Hands4Hope - Youth Making A Difference is a nonprofit, youth driven organization with the mission to inspire and empower youth in leadership and service. Hands4Hope offers hands-on education and community engagement opportunities to youth from K-12th grades through on-campus and after-school programs in Sacramento and El Dorado Counties. Hands4Hope was selected as "2023 Nonprofit of the Year" for California Senate District 4.

View photos and event fliers here.