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**TALBOT COUNTY EMPTY BOWLS PROVIDES FUNDING BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS**

Easton, MD – Talbot County Empty Bowls reorganized over the past year to begin preparations for an in-person fundraiser in 2023. During the planning process, the organization was able to accept donations to raise funds for local food pantries and from the generosity of Talbot County residents, was able to award $7,000 just prior to the holiday season. Seven organizations are receiving $1,000 each to assist in their efforts to address food insecurity in Talbot County.

Funds are being provided to: Helping Hands, Tilghman Island Food Pantry; Care Packs; Neighborhood Service Center; Scotts United Methodist Church Pantry on the Go; Harvest of Hope Food Pantry, Easton Church of God; St. Michaels Community Center; and Royal Oak Church/ Bellevue Church.

“These funds are a result of our fundraising efforts over the last year in lieu of being able to have our community dinner due to COVID,” said Amy Jacobs, co-chair of Empty Bowls. “But we are back and are excited that the in-person community dinner will be taking place on February 25, 2023.” Additional funds from this event will be dispersed to selected food pantries.

Tickets for the in-person dinner being held at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church in Easton are on sale now. Tickets for previous events sold out, which demonstrates the commitment of Talbot County residents to help others in our community. Interested individuals can sign up for the Empty Bowls newsletter by emailing talbotcountyemptybowls@gmail.com and will receive a reminder to purchase tickets prior to January 9.

Community support is the key to a successful event. Local restaurants and businesses will provide supplies and many services, including soup, bread, butter, paper products, and printing. Individuals and groups are encouraged to participate by making bowls. Until February 14, 2023, individuals can reserve a spot at Kiln Born Creations (kilnborncreations.com) to create and donate bowls for the event.

The global non-profit organization Empty Bowls has raised millions of dollars for hunger-related causes across the United States and in countries around the world. Talbot County Empty Bowls is an independent, volunteer, grassroots organization working through the Mid-Shore Community Foundation with the twin mission of eliminating hunger insecurity one bowl at a time and raising awareness in the community of this serious and fundamental issue for Talbot County. Since its 2008 inception, Talbot County Empty Bowls has distributed over $235,000 to Talbot County food organizations.  Each of the organizations serves people in need year-round regardless of race or religion.

For more information or to find out how you can get involved, please visit the [Talbot County Empty Bowls](https://www.facebook.com/TalbotCountyEmptyBowls/about/?ref=page_internal) Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/TalbotCountyEmptyBowls](http://www.facebook.com/TalbotCountyEmptyBowls). Donations are being accepted through the [Mid-Shore Community Foundation](https://www.mscf.org/) ([www.mscf.org](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mscf.org%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3eu_PMQBEhQViY9MNNGEENAHt6kxKFTyN1eVWhdpwog8jUEwfIeSJU9ds&h=AT0uXdI1jY1nMSZwJzX2i1aA3_-nQ8oHQxFrwrYmnCaL5u4pIYxP2wwQ_olCT4GgR-HIyl8hChCHbS6rgIZzOt37aavhBBq6elZrZOM6GEnug0pbQyNXEIEsMK1X3ct3HvY1YsYiNEV7Dyk-cGEa)).

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