

## Kiwanis RMD

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**From:** RF Smith <rff106k@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 25, 2017 4:13 PM  
**To:** Kiwanis RMD  
**Subject:** 2017 signature project contest  
**Attachments:** SPRP\_QA\_EB.pdf

- a. **Club Name: Monument Hill Kiwanis Club**
- b. **Club Contact: RF Smith**
- c. **Contact email address: [rff106k@gmail.com](mailto:rff106k@gmail.com)**
- d. **Contact phone number: (719) 210-4987 (cell)**
- e. **Name of Project: Empty Bowls Dinner & Silent Auction**

In 2016 the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club (MHKC) held its annual Empty Bowls Dinner & Silent Auction. The event was started in 1972 by two local potters, 18 years before the documented origin in Michigan in 1990. These two women organized local potters to produce bowls and convinced friends to make soup. When they plugged in the 42 crockpots at the local Mennonite church, they blew all the fuzes. The event has come a long way in 45 years. Sponsored by Monument Hill Kiwanis since 2010, the 2016 event served over 1,000 people and earned \$22,625 for Tri-Lakes Cares (TLC), our local family support center and food bank. Tickets are \$20/person and sold both online, by local merchants, and at the door.

Our charity, Tri-Lakes Cares, has been meeting the needs of Northern El Paso County's economically disadvantaged residents since November 1984. TLC provides human services to Monument, Palmer Lake, Woodmoor, and sections of Black Forest (District 38), Gleneagle and the Air Force Academy—over 100,000 people. They serve an annual average of nearly 600 families and disadvantaged children in the area.

To prepare for Empty Bowls, we coordinated for local potters and students from school district 38 (D38), art schools, and colleges, to produce over 500 bowls. Local K-Kids clubs decorated 1,000 small grocery bags for patrons to take home their bowls. Together with our Partner in Service, D38, the Club used the local high school building, supported by kitchen and custodial staff, and school board members volunteered to serve the soup.

The Club executed a multi-media publicity campaign, prepared the local high school, and solicited/picked up nearly 100 gallons of soup, and over 1,000 servings of donated bread, beverages, and dessert. Food remaining after the event was delivered to the Marion House, a local soup kitchen serving the homeless in our community.

In addition to the meal, entertainment was provided by private and school musical groups who presented 20-30 minute programs during the evening. There was a Silent Auction which raised one third of the total gross for the event. Dozens of local merchants and citizens donate items to the auction. This year, we also partnered with a Kohl's community service program whereby Kohl's employees volunteered at our event, earning us \$1,500 from the company.

MHKC employed over 200 volunteers who gave over 1,000 hours of their time. From our Service Leadership Program, 65 students from local Key Clubs and Builders Clubs, volunteered, donating

over 210 hours of service. After the event, we sent nearly 100 thank you letters to those who have supported the event.

There is no national overhead for this project. After costs of less than \$2,000, 100% of the money earned was delivered to TLC for a benefit ratio of over 92%. We are very proud to conduct this event with our Partners in support of Tri-Lakes Cares, our children, and our community. Our motto:

“ I’m Proud to be a Monument Hill Kiwanian”

## MHKC Empty Bowls

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*"I'm Proud to be a Monument Hill Kiwanian"*

## MHKC Empty Bowls

1. Describe the project. Is it a service project, fundraiser or event?

*Empty bowls is a Kiwanis service project, designed as a fundraiser for Tri-Lakes Cares, which has become a community event.*

2. Describe the need being met through the project. Was a community assessment completed to determine the need? How was the need discovered?

*Empty Bowls is an ongoing national fundraiser. All of our proceeds go to Tri-Lakes Cares, a local non-profit organization helping families in need. Of children in the Tri-Lakes area, more than 15.5% suffer from food insecurity—unsure where their next meal is coming from or, when it comes, if it will be good for them—higher than the average for Colorado and the nation. Often, the Tri-Lakes Cares food pantry is their only hope.*

3. Describe the population being served by the project. Please be as specific as possible.

*Empty Bowls serves the Colorado Tri-Lakes region (Monument, Palmer Lake and Woodmoor) with an estimated population of over 35,000.*

4. How does the project benefit children? If this was addressed in an earlier question, please state "See question XX above."

*Tri-Lakes Cares serves the needy families in the area, providing food, counseling and much more. In the past year, they have served.*

5. What is the impact of the project- how many people were helped or served? Please quantify the number of people impacted in these categories:

a. Attendees (if applicable): *Approximately 1,000*

b. Service recipients: *Over 600 families and children, annually, served by Tri-Lakes Cares*

c. Kiwanis members, including members of service leadership programs, who participate: *55 Kiwanians participated as well as ~65 Key Club members*

6. Is the project recurring? If so, describe its frequency (annual, monthly, every-other year, etc.).

*This is an annual community event, held in the first week of October each year.*

7. Are there Kiwanis partners involved in the project? If so, which partners and what is their role?

*None of the official KI sponsors are involved.*

8. Are there other partners (outside of Kiwanis International's official partners) involved in the project? If so, which partners and what is their role?

*Our local Partners-in-Service include Tri-Lakes Cares, District #38 schools, and the Tri-Lakes Women's Club. In addition, volunteers from Kohl's provided assistance. These partners combine to swell the ranks of volunteers for the event to over 200.*

9. Describe how the Kiwanis brand is incorporated into the project.

## MHKC Empty Bowls

*The Kiwanis logo is prominently displayed in promotional literature and in advertising. Additionally, the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club have run a video at the event which is designed to attract members. The video is replete with references to Kiwanis at all levels.*

10. How is the project promoted?

*The project is promoted in 4 local newspapers and on our websites, which include social media. We also advertise with local merchants via flyers and set up roadside banners in the weeks before the event.*

11. How many third-party news media hits resulted? How many social media shares were made?

*We do not track hits or shares.*

12. How does the project attract new members?

*We staff a professional booth with advertising and a video which describes the Club and the work we do. We hand out brochures with membership and contact information. For those who ask, we provide our member guide with more detail and an application.*

13. How many new members were gained through the project?

*We don't track membership source discretely. We're happy to have members regardless of how they heard of us or what motivated them to join.*

14. What is the total cost of the project (if applicable)?

*The cost of the project is about \$2,000.*

15. What is the per-member cost of the project (if applicable): Total cost divided by total membership number.

*Based on the members participating, the annual cost is ~\$36/member. Against the entire membership (137), the annual cost is less than \$15/member. Cost is not borne by the membership. The earnings of the event are net of cost.*

16. What are the total funds raised by the project (if applicable)?

*The project has averaged over \$20,000 annually for several years. In 2016, we raised (again, net of cost) \$22,625 for Tri-Lakes Cares.*

17. What is the per-member amount of funds raised by the project (if applicable): Total profit divided by total membership number.

*Based on the members participating, the net earnings for 2016 were over \$411/member. For all members (137), the net earnings for 2016 were over \$165/member.*

18. Did members of a service leadership programs club participate? Please describe.

*Over 65 students from our two Key Clubs, one Builders Club, and six K-Kids Clubs participated in the event, mostly from the Key Clubs, contributing over 210 hours of service to our community*

# MHKC Empty Bowls



Monument Hill Kiwanis Club and  
Service Leadership Clubs,  
Tri-Lakes Cares, and School District 38  
present



## EMPTY BOWLS DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

**Wednesday October 5, 2016**

Lewis-Palmer High School

5:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Ticket Price - \$20

One Child Under 12 - FREE - with a purchased ticket

Ticket purchase includes: DINNER - Soup, Bread, Beverage, & Dessert  
HANDMADE BOWL - donated by local artists  
ENTRY into drawing for a Door Prize



**Tickets at the Door or In Advance at these Locations:**

- **ONLINE:** [www.monumenthillkiwanis.org](http://www.monumenthillkiwanis.org)
- Covered Treasures Bookstore - Downtown Monument
- Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce - Monument
- Tri-Lakes Printing - Jackson Creek Shopping Center
- Rock House Ice Cream & More - Palmer Lake
- Hangers to Hutches Thrift Shop - Downtown Monument
- Serranos - Monument
- The Wine Seller - Palmer Lake
- Hamula Orthodontics - Monument
- Espresso Americano - Jackson Creek Shopping Center

*Proceeds to benefit  
Tri-Lakes Cares!*



Make checks payable to: Monument Hill Kiwanis

For more information, contact: Dave Wittman, 925-683-8291 or [EmptyBowlsMHK@gmail.com](mailto:EmptyBowlsMHK@gmail.com)

## Empty Bowls fundraiser helps fill Tri-Lakes Cares food pantry

### For The Tribune

Trees are turning and temperatures are starting to drop meaning it's soup weather and time for the annual Empty Bowls Dinner and Silent Auction to benefit Tri-Lakes Cares, the nonprofit food pantry in Monument.

The Monument Hill Kiwanis Club will once again sponsor the Oct. 5 fundraising dinner at Lewis-Palmer High School.

This is one of the biggest events of the fall as an estimated 800 people are expected to pay \$20 apiece for a hand-crafted ceramic bowl, a dinner of soup, bread and dessert all donated by area restaurants, merchants, clubs, churches and other sponsors.

It's a Tri-Lakes area tradition that dates to 1992 when potters Anne Shimek and Linda Pankratz organized the event at the Menominee Church on Highway 105 in Palmer Lake.

They were inspired by the first Empty Bowl dinner a year earlier in Detroit, Mich. Since then, it has grown into a nationwide event, typically held during World Hunger Week, the second week in October.

That first dinner featured soups in a four-kilowatt 42 cookpots. That event

**The annual Empty Bowls Dinner will be held 5-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at Lewis-Palmer High School, 1300 Highy Road, Monument.**

**Tickets are \$20 and are available online at [www.monumenthillkiwanis.org](http://www.monumenthillkiwanis.org) and at local Tri-Lakes merchants.**

**The dinner is sponsored by the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club and proceeds go to Tri-Lakes Cares, the nonprofit food pantry.**

netted \$3,500 on ticket prices of \$10 per person. Local artists produced 350 bowls for this first event, as gifts to the participants.

Four years later, Monument Hill Serotona, now Monument Hill Kiwanis, stepped up to manage the event along with the Lewis-Palmer School District 38, high-school age Service Leadership Program's Serotona Club.

The dinner was moved to Lewis-Palmer Middle School. Within two years, the event had grown so much a bigger venue was required.

Since 1998, the event has been held in Lewis-Palmer High School. The backbone of the event are the scores of



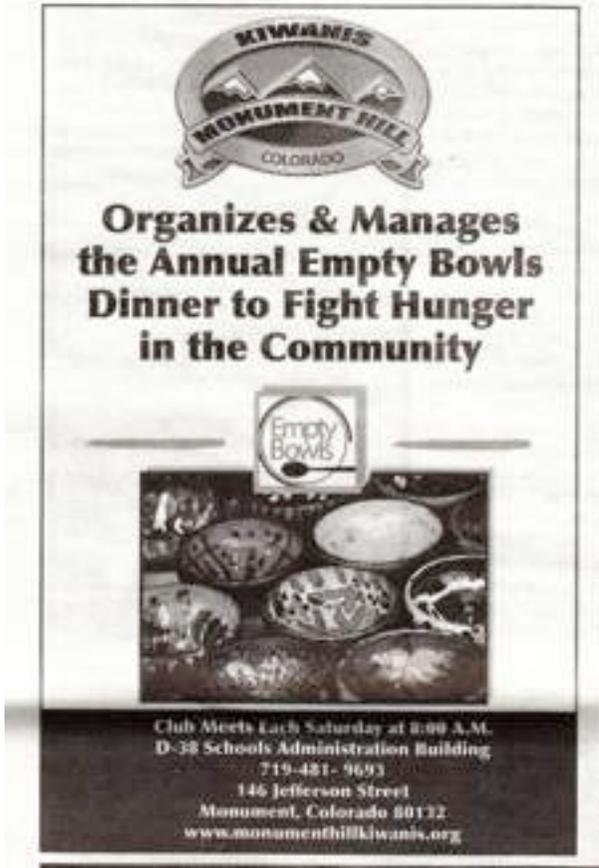
local potters who donate hundreds of bowls to be given away to participants in support of Tri-Lakes Cares.

Over the years, the number of bowls donated has climbed to 1,000 per year, attendance has grown to over 800, and the price per ticket has increased to \$20 per person. To facilitate family participation, one child under the age of 12 is admitted free with a ticket holding adult.

At the event, Tri-Lakes Cares conducts a Silent Auction of merchandise ranging from jewelry and art to services and vacation travel - all donated by local merchants.

There is music and ticketholders have the opportunity to help the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club, Kiwanis Service Leadership Clubs, and over 100 other volunteers deliver a significant financial boost to Tri-Lakes Cares.

*Our Community News, 1 October 2016*



**Partners In Service**

Integrity Bank & Trust  
 Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce  
 Lewis-Palmer School District #38  
 USA Dictionary Project

**Monument Hill Kiwanis**

[www.monumenthillkiwanis.org](http://www.monumenthillkiwanis.org)

**SOUP TICKET**

*You must have this ticket to receive a bowl of soup*

**Come Visit! Saturdays 8:00 AM**

**"Big Red" D38 Admin Bldg  
 2nd & Jefferson, Monument**

***Breakfast is on Us***

**Projects**

- |                      |                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4th of July Parade   | Service Leadership Program       |
| Peach Sales          | Rocky Mt. Youth Leadership Conf. |
| Holiday Bell Ringing | Deaf & Blind Golf                |
| Senior Meals         | Therapeutic Riding               |
| Harvest of Love      | Dictionaries for 3rd Graders     |
| Craft Show           | Soap Box Derby                   |



**Volunteer Opportunities**

Help Yourself	Hangers to Hatches
Commodities	School Supply Program
Front Desk	Holiday Program
Pantry	(October to mid-December)

**Tri-Lakes Cares**

[www.tri-lakescares.org](http://www.tri-lakescares.org)

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235 North Jefferson St  
 Monument, CO 80132  
 719-481-4864

**Programs & Services**

Referral Services	Financial Assistance
Medical Assistance	Seasonal Assistance
Food Assistance	Post-Secondary Ed
Clothing Assistance	Workforce Center

To volunteer, call 719-481-4864 x117 or email: [VolunteerManager@tri-lakescares.org](mailto:VolunteerManager@tri-lakescares.org)

MHKC Empty Bowls



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