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The Bowery Mission Celebrates its 141st Thanksgiving Day with Modified COVID-19 Plans to Serve More Than 1,350 Meals to People in Need

NEW YORK – The Bowery Mission's 141st Thanksgiving Day celebration comes at one of the most challenging times in our city's history. The Mission has made modifications to ensure the safety of all involved in order to serve more than 1,350 meals to men, women and children in need across New York City. During the months of October and November, the Mission expects to serve 65,000 meals. This culminates with an estimated 1,350 meals served across all of The Bowery Mission's campuses on Thanksgiving Day alone.

Even before the onset of COVID-19, millions of New Yorkers lived on the razor's edge, one personal crisis away from homelessness with 1 in 5 New Yorkers living in poverty and 1 in 4 New Yorkers paying half their income in rent. Now, because of the pandemic, an estimated 1 in 7 New Yorkers have lost their job and more than 50,000 people are at risk of eviction. The need for warm meals and compassionate services is greater than ever.

On Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 26) at the Bowery Campus (227 Bowery), to-go meals will be served outdoors during a four-hour period between 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. Guests can take away their meal, or enjoy their meal in a safe, socially distanced seating area on Rivington Street between Chrystie and Bowery. More than 160 volunteers will work behind plexiglass and n95 masks while wearing aprons, hairnets and gloves. In addition to a meal, all guests will receive their own face mask to wear as they wait in line, along with a practical care kit including socks, a winter hat, gloves and hygiene items.

Throughout the week, volunteers and staff will prepare, serve and distribute 450 turkeys, 2,000 pounds of potatoes, 500 pounds of vegetables, 300 pies and 50 pounds of coffee. Watch a behind the scenes look at how The Bowery Mission will host its annual celebration safely amidst COVID-19 here. The food, clothing, gifts and financial support were donated by generous individuals, companies, foundations and congregations. The Bowery Mission recognizes the following corporate sponsors and is grateful for their support:

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About The Bowery Mission

The Bowery Mission has served New Yorkers experiencing homelessness and hunger since the 1870s. Last year, The Bowery Mission provided more than 429,500 meals, 104,000 nights of shelter, 27,600 articles of clothing, 67,500 emergency showers and 1,500 onsite medical and optometry exams. Each meal and every service is an invitation to our Residential and Community Programs that help clients make progress toward a transformed life of faith, community, sobriety, sustainable income and independent living. To empower children to thrive and succeed, The Bowery Mission also offers year-round opportunities for enrichment through Mont Lawn City Camp, culminating in summer camp for hundreds of children in the Poconos Region of Pennsylvania. To learn more, visit www.bowery.org.

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