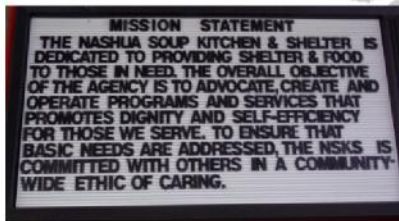


Soup Kitchen Article 1

Lodge no. 720 recently received an impact grant from the Elks National Foundation (ENF). Impact Grants are competitive grants designed to help lodges make a visible, significant, and ongoing difference in their communities. In Nashua, the funds are being used to "Feed the Hungry". Here are some of the accomplishments to date in the Nashua Soup Kitchen project that will continue throughout 2012.

One day each week, a team of volunteers, including lodge members and helpers, prepares and serves healthy hot meals to the patrons of the Nashua Soup Kitchen (NSKS) in Nashua, NH. The food is purchased by lodge members with funds from the impact grant. Because of the current poor economic climate, there has been a huge increase in the homeless population, particularly in the number of families with children. According to a front-page article in the local newspaper, the Nashua Telegraph, the situation probably won't get better anytime soon. The Nashua Elks decided that this was an opportunity to demonstrate that "Elks Care - Elks Share".



NSKS Mission Statement



Nashua Elks - Trent Michalewicz, Maureen Trembley, Doug Tremlett, ER, and John McGranahan, PER



Nashua Elks - Maureen Trembley, Trent Michalewicz, Sherrie Michalewicz, Project Leader, and John McGranahan, PER

Some of the meals recently prepared and served were:
Spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread and salad
Beef stroganoff with vegetables and rolls

The next meal planned for January 24th is baked chicken with gravy and mashed potatoes.

The volunteers agree that the expressions of gratitude from the food kitchen patrons are their own reward. After all, that's what it means to be an Elk.

"It is our goal to be able to walk the streets of Nashua and not hear a child cry because they are hungry, not to see a couple sleeping in their car because they have no place to live and no place to cook a hot meal on a cold winter night, and to do whatever we can to ease the pain in the faces and hearts of all that cannot provide a healthy meal for their families. That's why we are Elks because Elks Care and Elks Share." - Project Leader, Elks Soup Kitchen Project

B. P. O. E.