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May XX, 2019

Dear Harvest Fest Supporters and Sponsors,

Although we are barely in to spring, we are already planning for the 2019 annual fall event – Harvest Fest.

For the past six years, Harvest Fest and the Harvest 5K have brought together Mower County communities to celebrate the harvest season and raise awareness of the need for healthy food donations to the county’s food shelves. Those utilizing food shelves are often some of our most vulnerable community members, who lack access to healthy options.

This year, we are combining the community festival/expo, the 5K walk/run and a community bike ride under one name: Harvest Fest. The event will be held on Sat., Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon at Mill Pond Park. New this year is the addition of a guided bike ride that will travel the Shooting Star Bike Trail that runs from Austin to Leroy. Also new is a healthy living expo at the start of the 5K walk/run and bike ride, offering an opportunity to have fun and connect with local organizations that help Mower County residents live healthy.

Last year, with support from our local businesses and organizations, we were able to award more than 50 prizes to participants, collect 64 pounds of food for the Salvation Army, cover the costs of the run and donate approximately \$900 in healthy food donations to Mower County food shelves.

We are asking for your support again this year. Your contribution ensures that Harvest Fest continues as a family friendly, county-wide event to help everyone live healthy.

The YMCA graciously serves as the fiscal agent for community contributions and manages registrations. Monetary donations may be made to YMCA-Austin: Harvest Fest, 704 1st Dr. NW, Austin, MN 55912. Prize certificates or items may be given to any of the Harvest Fest co-chairs. With a contribution of \$50, your business name will be listed on the event materials and t-shirts. With a contribution of \$150+, your business logo will be included on the t-shirts.

Please contact Mower Refreshed, or any of the co-chairs listed below if you have questions or would like to reach out with your support.

With gratitude,

Harvest Fest co-chairs:

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