



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Oasis Social Ministry Stages Annual Soup Cook-Off and Auction**

**(PORTSMOUTH, VA - November 4, 2019)** - The annual **Oasis Soup Cook-Off and Auction** will be held Sunday, November 17, at 5 p.m., at The Ambassador Club of Portsmouth, 364 Peninsula Ave. Sometimes a bowl of soup is the only thing that stands between health and hunger. To this end, Oasis ensures a hot and healthy breakfast and lunch is served 365 days a year. Though we have moved beyond the days that we could provide only a small bowl of soup and a peanut butter sandwich, it is these roots that have inspired our up-coming event, Oasis Social Ministry's Soup Cook-Off and Auction. This year we are embracing the theme of thankful with auction items, soups, and entertainment to evoke the spirit of the season.

Local restaurants and amateur cooks have been invited to make their best soups that evoke the theme thankful. The popular vote from our guests wins our golden ladle award. We will also have skilled judges to award even more prizes to the competitors. Simultaneously, we will be having an auction, and musical entertainment. All funds raised will go directly to Oasis to fund our much needed programs and services.

Operating uninterrupted since 1970, Oasis has been continuously meeting the basic socio-economic needs of this region. Next year we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary. Oasis was originally created by five local Catholic Parishes. Today it has evolved into an ecumenical multi-serving agency committed to helping individuals and families to meet their basic needs and to support their efforts of self-reliance and independence. Our list of programs include, a soup kitchen, food pantry, and clothes closet. Oasis has continued to be the highest distributing partner agency of the Foodbank of SEVA, provided over 280,000 pounds of food through our pantry, served 47,000 meals in our dining room, and gave away \$240,000 worth of clothing and household items.

**Location and how to get involved:** The event will be at The Ambassador Club of Portsmouth, 364 Peninsula Ave., in Portsmouth. Any restaurant that would like to participate is welcome to contact us. Tickets are currently on sale at Oasis, or can be purchased online ([www.oasissocialministry.org/events](http://www.oasissocialministry.org/events)). Tickets are \$25 and include bar privileges. For any inquiries, please contact Burgess Hodges (757) 397-6060 or [admin@oasissocialministry.org](mailto:admin@oasissocialministry.org)

### **Marketing and Communications**

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