



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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8th Annual Alternate Giving Fair Provides Opportunity for Shopping that Makes a Difference

More than twenty different local charities are coming together for the 8th Annual Holiday Alternate Giving Fair. The event will be held November 9 and 10, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Idaho Falls Elks Lodge (640 E. Elva St.).

The Giving Fair provides an opportunity for holiday shoppers to shop with local charities for holiday “gifts” by making donations to their favorite charities in the name of family members, friends, employees, etc. For each donation, shoppers receive an attractive holiday gift card noting the donation and the recipient. In addition to “shopping” with local charities, the giving fair also includes the sale of:

- Fair trade chocolates, coffees, teas, and hot chocolates
- Hand-thrown pottery bowls, created by Bill Landfair, owner of Raft River Pottery, as well as students from School District 91.

All of the participating organizations are from the local area and accomplish a tremendous amount for the community. Over the past seven years, the event has raised almost \$130,000 for local charities!

One hundred percent of the proceeds from the fair stay in the local area and support the participating charitable organizations in accomplishing their missions. This year’s organizations include Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeast Idaho, Breaking Boundaries, Club Inc., Community Outreach Center, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center, Emergency Housing Exchange, FAITH, Friends in Service Here (FISH), Foster Grandparents of Southeast Idaho, FreeMed, Girl Scouts Silver Sage, Habitat for Humanity, Help Inc., Hospice of Eastern Idaho, Idaho Falls Community Food Bank, Idaho Falls Rescue Mission, Museum of Idaho Education Programs,

Senior Citizens Community Center, Shepherd's Inn, Snake River Animal Shelter, St. Vincent de Paul Christian Ministries, and the Soup Kitchen.

The Soup Kitchen will be serving homemade soup and snacks both days for donations.

The Community Outreach Center is a local 501c3 charitable organization dedicated to assisting those in need in our community. The COC provides space for several social service agencies, which allows them to dedicate their funds entirely to helping those in need. The COC also organizes the annual alternate giving fair to highlight local charities and all the great outreach efforts in this community.

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