

2023 Lend-A-Hand application
Bread Line: attachment B

October 31, 2023

- 1.) The Bread Line's mission statement is "feeding people & affirming lives." We are an anti-hunger organization that runs four programs to combat hunger & poverty in our community: the Stone Soup Cafe is our weekday soup kitchen, serving thousands of free meals every month; Stone's Throw is a culinary job training program that empowers people overcoming obstacles to obtaining or retaining employment; the Stone Soup Community Garden (just north of your store) is an unfenced garden that grows food for the soup kitchen, community members & other service organizations; & Kid's Cafe, a monthly youth volunteering initiative
- 2.) The values of the Co-op Market dovetail nicely with the Bread Lines – especially the key ethics of nourishment & personal wellbeing. A fed community (in both belly & heart) is a healthy community. We believe that this can only be accomplished by working together towards a better tomorrow.
- 3.) Lend-a-Hand funds support our general operations: literally keeping the lights on. As a mostly donation-supported nonprofit, the bulk of the Bread Line's overhead – beyond payroll – is utilities. Recently, the quickly rising cost of utilities has been a concern.
- 4.) Our soup kitchen is called Stone Soup for a reason: when everyone shares what they can, there is enough for everyone to have all they need. The folk tale of Stone Soup shows a small town making a delicious soup – one onion & one potato at a time – for everyone to eat their fill. Funding from the Co-op Market is part of our proverbial soup: you make our work possible.
- 5.) Our 10 second elevator pitch is: *"The Bread Line is an anti-hunger organization that has been serving the hungry of Fairbanks since 1984. By addressing immediate needs & long-term economic security, the Bread Line is feeding people & affirming lives."*