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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**The public is invited to the Empty Bowl Soup Dinner on March 19  
at the Ocean City Center for the Arts**

**OCEAN CITY, MD — March 10, 2015** — The Art League of Ocean City and Diakonia have partnered to help fight hunger as the two local nonprofits host the Empty Bowl Soup Dinner at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on Saturday, March 19, from 5-8 p.m. First Shore Federal Bank sponsors the Empty Bowl Project, which is supported by a cornucopia of local restaurants.

The cost of the dinner is \$20 and includes soup, bread, soft drink, dessert and a ceramic soup bowl, handcrafted by volunteers at the arts center. Seating is continuous from 5-8 p.m., and reservations are not required.

Eight local restaurants will provide the soup: BLU, Mother's Cantina, Liquid Assets, Sello's, Sunset Grille, Seacrets, Original Greene Turtle and Buxy's Salty Dog. Panera will provide baguettes.

Desserts will be provided by Lighthouse Sound, Baked Desserts and Candy Kitchen. Soft drinks will be provided by Pepsi, Dunes Manor and Phillips Seafood. Coffee Beanery will offer coffee.

Cheers, Bayside Liquors and Fager's will provide wine at a cash bar.

Phil Knight will play music for the event, sponsored by Associated Insurance Center. Many local businesses have donated treasures for a Chinese auction.

Throughout January and February, hundreds of volunteers handmade one-of-a-kind ceramic bowls in the pottery studio at the Ocean City Center for Arts. Guests who come to dine at the soup dinner will receive one of these original bowls to take home as reminder of all of the empty bowls in the world.

Proceeds from the dinner will benefit Diakonia, a local nonprofit that has been helping individuals and families in Worcester County and the Lower Shore for more than 40 years by providing shelter, food, clothing and the resources to rebuild their lives. Proceeds also benefit the programs of the Art League of Ocean City.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94<sup>th</sup> Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the visual arts in the Ocean City area through education, exhibits, scholarships, programs and community art events. The arts center is supported by memberships, corporate and civic funding, donations and sales of art.

More information is available at [www.artleagueofoceancity.org](http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org) or by calling 410-524-9433.

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