

## Soup Kitchen Success Story

I am the Registered Agent for the San Martin de Porres Soup Kitchen in Espanola, New Mexico. We have been in existence for 20 years. We serve a hot lunch to 90 - 130 people daily, these are all low-income, elderly and or disabled; they range from 1 to 90 and are from every race, color and creed. We are in the heart of Northern of New Mexico and serve people in a 90 mile radius of our location.

We are a 501(c) 3 Non-profit Organization; we have over 100 volunteers that help serve throughout the month. All work is volunteer and for the most part everything is donated. Over the past 7 years we have had to increase our fund-raising efforts to augment our income. We do and Annual Chile Bowl Contest that brings in right around \$20,000. We've done a unique Cook Book - "El Norte Cooks" with wonderful hundred year old recipes, which have 10 ingredients or less, this fund-raising effort brought in \$7000. This past August we began **Sanders Collection 1200 Thread Count - 100% Egyptian Cotton Sheet Set Fund Raiser**. We hoped to sell 200 sets by the end of September and net \$3000 for our Soup Kitchen. As of today we have sold about 700 sets and the orders continue to dribble in. People are so amazed with the price and of course the quality of the product that they continue to place orders especially now for the Holidays to give as gifts. These sheets have practically sold themselves, some of my volunteers claim they are not sales-peoples yet they are coming in with 50 or more orders, once 1 or 2 hear about it they tell everyone in the office and so the orders keep coming in. It looks like we'll be having this for a long time.

I believe we have netted about \$10,000 and we still have some monies that need to be collected. This has helped us buy 500 pounds of ground beef, 300 pounds of chickens and we are waiting for the turkeys to go on sale so we can purchase for our Holiday Food box give-away.

The company is very cordial and helpful, once we order and pay for the product we can expect it in about 2 weeks. The Fed-Ex tracking system really helps. We have only had a few damaged sets; we send them back and get our money back or credit for other sets we may want to order. We are very pleased and excited with this fund-raiser. It has made a big difference in our ability to reach the poor and needy of our community and surrounding areas.

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San Martin de Porres Soup Kitchen  
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Espanola, New Mexico