

## TOMATO BASIL SOUP

serves 6

3-4 Tbsp. olive oil 6 cloves fresh garlic, chopped 1 large onion, chopped 1 red bell pepper, diced 1/4 tsp. red pepper flakes 1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper	Sauté garlic, onion and pepper in oil until onion is golden brown. Add spices and continue to stir fry for 2 min. Place in blender.
5 fresh Roma tomatoes, cut up 2 cans diced tomatoes 3 C. fresh chicken broth 2 6-oz. cans tomato paste 1 Tbsp. crushed basil	Add tomatoes in blender with chicken broth and puree. Place in crock pot. Stir in tomato paste until smooth. Add basil. Simmer on low for approximately 4 hours.
Shredded mozzarella cheese fresh basil leaves (optional) croutons (optional)	Serve with croutons and mozzarella cheese.