It’s two twists on the old French fable of Stone Soup. Two travelers come to a village and proceed to fill a kettle with water and several stones. As the water heats up, the traveler’s begin testing the “soup” of water and stones.

Professing that all it needs is a few vegetables, some spices and maybe a piece of meat or two, the villagers who gathered around to watch their efforts began to add items to the kettle - a few carrots, onions, some potatoes, and some cabbage.

Some other curious villagers provided some spices, a piece of beef and some pork. What began as a mere pot of boiling rocks, had been transformed into a hearty stew with more than enough for the travelers and all the villagers!

At first blush, it seems like these two travelers had hoodwinked the whole town. What really happened is the first of our two twists: instead of a story of two tricksters, we discover it is really about how we are all nourished - in body as well as spirit - when we all add what we can to the “pot” that is our community. Everyone is filled, and there is more than enough for all.

And the second twist? It’s a much more modern one - and led by a 9-year old boy who did more than just volunteer one day with his grandmother at one of our meal service sites.

His name is Isaac. Only 9 years old, Isaac has always wanted to help people. He started to save up his allowance and to even collect some of his friends' allowance as well! After a busy day serving homeless and hungry families, children, individuals, veterans and seniors, he decided also to donate his long-saved money - $81 - to Loaves & Fishes!

We were so touched and humbled by Isaac's big heart and generous spirit. And it gave us an idea. When we shared it with Isaac and his grandmother, Isaac was “all in!”

More Over...
Isaac would like to invite YOU to join Isaac’s Stone Soup Challenge! Can you save $81 to add to our pot of Stone Soup? Isaac is inviting Loaves & Fishes’ friends, donors, and volunteers to help raise money towards his new goal...of $81,000! That’s 33,000 hot nutritious meals!

Wait, there's more! - the Sobrato Family Foundation will generously match your donations up to $92,000!

Every dollar doubled by our

SOSTRA
Family Foundation Challenge Grant!

It's really quite simple - If we all contribute something to the pot of Stone Soup, we will all feast.

Here in Silicon Valley, no child, no parent, no one should have to go to bed at night not knowing where or when their next meal will come from. When all are fed, we are all raised up. And that’s the best message of all.

Gisela B. Bushey, CEO, Loaves & Fishes

Partner Testimonial
LifeSteps

"I would like to thank you for the hot meals delivered to the seniors at De Rose Gardens.

The residents are very grateful for the hot meals provided by Loaves & Fishes.

It means a lot to all the residents, especially to those who are physically or financially unable to prepare meals. We greatly appreciate everything Loaves & Fishes has provided to residents."

- Yadira Tejeda, Director of Social Services, LifeSteps
Groups & Corporate Volunteering

We have some new (and revamped!) volunteering opportunities for large groups. We hope you can join us in giving back to our community, whether it's cooking meals, building brown bag lunches, or packing hygiene kits for our guests.

**Team Building Cooking Experience**

Prepare and Cook thousands of meals with your team! The Loaves & Fishes Cooking Experience program is a fun and effective way for larger groups to work together creatively and in a friendly environment, all while giving back to the community. As a team, you will work together to create balanced, delicious meals for our hot meal program that serves low-income families, children, seniors, veterans, students, the disabled, and the homeless.

**Brown Bag Lunch Program**

We will bring all the fixings to build a nutritious brown bag lunch to you and your team. From sandwich-making to filling the bags with fruit, snacks, and drinks, each BBLP event will create 300-500 lunches to be distributed to families, children, students, and the homeless throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.

**Hygiene Kit Building Program**

We will provide all the materials on campus or off-site you and your teams will need to assemble these kits. Kits will be distributed to families, children, seniors, veterans, students, the disabled, and the homeless throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.

For more information or to join us for one of these great volunteer opportunities. Please contact Anne Santos: anne@loavesfishes.org

Our guests are truly grateful for the services they receive thanks to generous donors & volunteers like you!!
I am fortunate to have never personally faced food insecurity and I can’t imagine what it would be like to live without having this very essential need met. Oddly enough, that is what propelled me to dedicate myself to being a part of the food insecurity solution. Woven into my core was the belief that when much is given, much is expected, and this was something I wanted to pass down to my son.

For years, each week I would buy extra food at the grocery store and my son and I would deliver it once a month to Second Harvest Food Bank. I also spent thirteen years running a non-profit to provide rent, food, and basic necessities for families in need in Santa Clara County.

My neighbor and fellow board member, Ray, had told me about Loaves & Fishes Family Kitchen and its efforts to fight hunger in the Bay Area. Ray spoke so passionately about the mission and the need to feed people here in Silicon Valley that I knew that I had to get involved.

I started by serving on the committee for the Feed the Need Race and it was so rewarding that I wanted to be more committed to this amazing organization and its efforts to fight hunger. It was an honor to be asked to be on the Board of Directors and I don’t take this opportunity for granted as it is a chance to make this world better by being involved my community.

Winston Churchill said it best; “We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”

Meet Board Member Elaine Walter

My parents instilled in me the importance of being a citizen of the world who gives back. They taught me that it was our duty to make the world a better place by being active in our own community. Volunteering was an essential part of my childhood and has continued into my adulthood.

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JOIN US ON NOVEMBER 3RD, AS THE SHARKS SKATE TO FEED THE HUNGRY!

Join Loaves & Fishes for the Philadelphia Flyers vs. San Jose Sharks LIVE at SAP Center

A portion of the ticket sales supports Loaves & Fishes’ efforts to provide hot nutritious meals to the hungry and homeless throughout the Bay Area community.

Our **Director's Circle** is a newly formed special group of donors who give $1,000 or more annually and receive special acknowledgment and opportunities to come together to learn how Loaves & Fishes is putting their generous donations to work. Benefits include an invitation to the annual Director's Circle reception, personal volunteer experiences, and recognition in our newsletter and website. Please contact gisela@loavesfishes.org to join or learn more about membership.

**Sustainers Circle - $25,000+**
- Rob DiNapoli
- Private Donor
- Private Donor
- Full Circle Foundation

**Providers Circle - $10,000 - $24,999**
- AnnMarie & Ralph Zimmermann
- Ferrari Family Foundation
- John and Lydia Vidovich
- Nahulan & Mai Buell
- Olander Family Foundation, Inc.
- Thomas L. and Lynn R. Robinson
- Warmenhouven Family Foundation

**Nourishers Circle - $5,000 - $9,999**
- Anna Marie Cook
- Barbara S. Hager
- Boucher Family Foundation
- Bron C. Nelson and Desiree Diverse-Diaz
- C. H. and Diane Ozbun
- Chris Shaheen Charitable Foundation
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- Nahulan & Mai Buell
- Richard and Emily Levin Foundation
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- Robert N. and Florence Slinger Foundation
- Sean M. and Mary D. Echevarria
- Ted Biagini Family Charitable Fund

**Harvesters Circle - $2,500 - $4,999**
- Carla Lindorff
- John Parissenti and Linda Chin
- J. Philip and Jennifer DiNapoli
- Ray Baker and Michele Mork-Ovson
- Steven Hallgrimson
- Heffernan Family Foundation

**Cultivators Circle - $1,000 - $2,499**
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- Ann P. Liebmann
- Annette Marie Nelson
- Beverly Mecklenburg
- Biagini Komas Family Foundation
- Bradley and Cynthia Hansen
- Cathy Gist
- Christopher J. and Lisa M. Marchese
- Claudia Folzman
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- Elizabeth J. Patrick and Josephine C. Dunkin
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- Sherril P. & James R. Kenny
- Shirley A. Wilson

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- Tosa Foundation
- The Best Electrical Co., Inc.
- The Catholic Foundation of Santa Clara
- The Health Trust
- The Valley Foundation
Black Friday, Cyber Monday...

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

Join us on November 27, 2018

LoavesFishes.org/givingtuesday2018