



2016 Annual Report

"Food for the body ... Nurture for the soul"

Providing free food for neighbors in need

Bread of Life distributed about 1,056,000 meals in 2016 – an increase of 2.5% over the previous year - helping eliminate hunger locally.

We invest our resources and volunteers in ending hunger right here in our neighborhoods. Low income families find it difficult to make ends meet – to pay for housing, utilities, medical costs, clothing, schooling, etc. and still have money for food. Rents and housing purchase prices are high. Many families have people working one or more part-time jobs with few or no benefits. Others are experiencing unemployment. Still others are living on Social Security, disability income, or Transitional Assistance income for families. BOL helps these families put food on the table so they can pay their rent or mortgage, utility bills, medical bills, and other essentials.



Food Pantries: helping struggling families – our Malden Food Pantry (serving 10 communities) provided about 579,000 meals and our Everett Food Pantry provided about 100,100 meals in 2016 (as groceries).

Our Malden Food Pantry served approximately 1,660 separate households last year, made up of about 4,730 men, women & children, with the total number of visits over the year being about 25,810. Our Malden Food Pantry is located at 54 Eastern Avenue, Malden, and is open every Wednesday (4-6 pm) and Friday (2-4 pm). We serve low-income people who are working or unemployed, retired, disabled or homeless. Malden families comprise about 60% of those served; Everett 31%; Medford 5%; Melrose 3%; and the remainder are from Stoneham, Saugus, Wakefield, Reading, North Reading and Winchester.

Our Everett Food Pantry, run in cooperation with the Mayor's Office and Office of Community Development, served approximately 470 separate households last year, made up of about 1,330 men, women & children, with the total number of visits over the year being about 5,080. The Pantry is located on the ground floor of Everett City Hall, 484 Broadway, and is open every 3rd and 4th Thursday of the month (3-5 pm) for residents of Everett only. The majority of the 50 some volunteers at our food pantries originally came to the pantry seeking help, and were trained into volunteer positions of responsibility and leadership.

Senior Nutrition Outreach: serving vulnerable, low-income seniors living in subsidized housing – about 275,200 meals distributed in 2016 (as groceries). This critical collaborative project is run in partnership with Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES). We deliver groceries every month to 776 senior citizen clients of MVES who are not able to access food pantries due to health issues such as arthritis, heart disease, stroke and diabetes. These senior citizens reside in 14 subsidized housing developments in Malden, Everett, Melrose, Medford and Wakefield. At each site, senior citizen volunteers are recruited to help with the food distribution.

Homeless Families Motel Meals Outreach: helping homeless families in desperate situations – about 52,900 meals distributed in 2016 (as cooked meals and as groceries). The number of homeless families sheltered in motels across the state decreased dramatically over the past year as the state has moved families into housing, even if the housing is temporary or at rental rates too high to be sustainable in the long run. BOL began the first half of the year delivering about 250 meals and 80 bags of groceries once a week to 100 families at three motels. We now are delivering 130 meals and 55 bags of groceries once a week to 55 families. As long as families continue to be placed in these local motels, BOL is committed to making sure that no child goes hungry.

Families in the motels are not allowed to cook, they have no place for the children to play, and transportation is by bus along a busy highway. In addition to food, we provide children's clothing, diapers, baby wipes, formula and baby food. We also periodically deliver books through our Read For Life program. We are enormously grateful to the First Baptist Church of Malden for donating the use of their kitchen every Tuesday afternoon for this program for the past eight years. We partner with several organizations that donate prepared food for this effort, including Anthony's of Malden, Bobby C's of Melrose, Cheverus School of Malden, Community Cooks of Somerville, Food For Free of Cambridge, Hanley kitchen, Leon Donnelly kitchen and the Melrose Knights of Columbus #128.

Our Motel Meals Outreach team was just finishing up the regular Tuesday food delivery when a woman drove up to the motel in a van. She came to a stop and just started sobbing. One of our volunteers hurried over and said "Are you OK? Are you being placed here?" The woman looked up and said "I don't even know where I am! I just came from Dorchester!" "You're in Malden. You're going to be OK. I'm from Bread of Life - we're here every Tuesday with food." When the woman opened the van door, a toaster fell out. It looked like the family had just thrown all their belongings in the van. Her toddler, in a car seat, had spilled drink all over. Her two other children, an 8-year-old and a teenager, were wedged in among all the possessions. The volunteers gave the mother groceries and information on other BOL programs and resources, saying "Just call us if you need anything else!" BOL's outreach reassures



homeless families that they are not forgotten or abandoned. We care and are there to help.

Evening Meals: neighbors helping neighbors – about 48,600 meals distributed in 2016 (as evening meals, lunches, snacks). BOL provides free evening meals Tuesday through Friday within a community of sharing and caring, utilizing about 450 volunteers – from grade-school students to senior citizens – from our 45 Partner Organizations and the broader community.

On June 1, 2016, after 36 years of being based at St. Paul's Parish in Malden - the congregation that created Bread of Life - our Evening Meals program moved to a new location. We will always be extremely grateful to St. Paul's Parish for birthing, nurturing, and finally shooing BOL from the nest. Our evening meals are now held: Tuesdays at our Food Pantry, 54 Eastern Avenue in Malden (with a meal boxed to-go), Wednesdays and Thursdays at the American Legion Post 69, 368 Pleasant Street (Rt. 60) in Malden, and Fridays at the First Baptist Church, 493



Main Street in Malden. We are very happy to be partnering with the American Legion because we share a common purpose in helping veterans, particularly homeless veterans. The evening meals bring together a broad spectrum of races, ethnicities and nationalities, and serves local working families, seniors, people with disabilities and homeless individuals. They provide an ideal time for BOL to link people to additional resources such as SNAP benefits, housing & shelter, healthcare and fuel assistance. On any given night, 30 - 50 people come in for an evening meal and we provide 50 - 80 meals including second helpings and take-out meals. We make weekly deliveries of meals, pastries, fruit & beverages to as many as 100 youths at Malden Teen Enrichment Center (MTEC), and monthly deliveries of the same to five other area programs. BOL provides special celebration dinners for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. We distributed 400 turkeys and supermarket gift cards at Thanksgiving.



BOL empowers poor individuals and families by offering them volunteer opportunities with our meals or pantry so they can give back to the community while developing skills useful for future employment and goals. By recruiting, training and utilizing hundreds of volunteers of all ages, races & ethnicities, we have also strengthened the community to care for its own who are struggling.

BOL works with community agencies to connect people with other vital services, such as job training, educational opportunities, low-cost housing, healthcare and clothing.

BOL building project forges ahead: building the new BOL central location. This project will co-locate our evening meals, food pantry and community space so that we can consolidate and streamline our operations while expanding services. The project will also include 14 units of affordable housing for formerly homeless individuals and veterans, to be owned and operated by a nonprofit housing corporation. To date:

- BOL has secured nearly \$1,000,000 in commitments toward our \$2.9 million goal, including three foundation pledges of \$250,000 each.
- BOL has partnered with New England Communities, Inc. (NECI) as the new developer for the project replacing Tri-City Community Action Program (Tri-CAP), our original partner and developer.
- The housing portion of the project received a \$1.2 million award of federal HOME funds through the North Suburban HOME Consortium in June 2016.
- Under the leadership of NECI, the project has been redesigned to all new construction instead of partial rehab.
- BOL and NECI negotiated the removal of Tri-CAP from the 54 Eastern Ave LLC in order to move forward with this project, with the result that BOL is now the sole member of the LLC. Century Bank has extended our acquisition loan for another year and the Planning Board Special Permit was renewed through June, 2017.
- The BOL Board has taken a number of actions aimed at improving operational efficiencies, financial performance and mitigating risk, including engaging consultants to review its operations, and implementing a plan to improve staffing models, brand awareness, and community engagement.
- BOL and NECI worked together to create a new nonprofit corporation, Metro North Housing Corp. (MNHC), that will own the 14 affordable studio apartments to be built at 54 Eastern Avenue in Malden, as well as two properties formerly owned by Tri-CAP for the purpose of housing homeless individuals.

Highlights of 2016

January

Melrose churches reached out to homeless families in honor of MLK day. Kids and adults from Melrose Highlands Congregational Church, coordinated by Anne Gilbert, prepared 100 meals of shepherd's pie, salad & homemade cookies for delivery by the BOL motel outreach team to families sheltered in local motels that we serve weekly. Volunteers from the First United Methodist Church of Melrose, coordinated by Jana Gimenez, put together string backpacks filled with books and snacks for the kids at the motels. Both of these projects were a great treat for the homeless families, community-building and fun for the church families, and a wonderful tribute to the ideals of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



We launched our Food Access Project to help increase access to our food programs by diverse immigrant populations, welcoming Anson Kwong to our staff as our new Food Access Coordinator. This 20 hour-per-week position is funded by grants from BNY Mellon and the Cummings Foundation/OneWorld Boston. Anson organized a Food Access Committee of volunteers, including speakers of Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Korean, French, Haitian Creole, Arabic, Spanish and Portuguese. Among their accomplishments to date: conducting a survey of BOL food pantry members (“clients”) and face-to-face interviews with pantry members and volunteers to learn about their food wants and needs, barriers to food access, and opinions on BOL services; translating BOL brochures and flyers; interpreting in various languages for BOL pantry members and volunteers; supervising volunteers; recruiting new volunteers with language interpreting skills; soliciting food and book donations; doing outreach to promote our food programs; and starting a weekly English class. Anson asked our volunteers to write reviews of BOL at GreatNonprofits.com and we received their 2016 Top-Rated Nonprofit ranking!



Our Everett Food Pantry got a new Coordinator with Lou Barsotti taking the reins from Zoila Corricelli. We offer Zoila our deepest thanks for doing such a superb job coordinating the Everett Pantry since its inception eight years ago. She continues to volunteer in our Malden pantry. Lou is a longtime food pantry volunteer who is able, among his many skills, to interpret for patrons of the food pantry who speak French, Portuguese or Italian.

March

Our Easter Dinner provided 70 senior citizens and families with a delicious meal and companionship for the holiday. The event, held at St. Paul's Parish in Malden, was able to provide second helpings and take-out meals for guests, as well as meals to be taken home to those unable to attend. Huge thanks goes to Marty's Caterers of Stoneham that donated 150 servings of roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy & stuffing from, and to Hoff's Bakery that donated cases of specialty cakes. We thank the two dozen volunteers who helped from 9 am to 4 pm, even coming in just for the cleaning shift! **The BOL motel outreach team delivered 90 Easter baskets to homeless kids in the motels.** Easter baskets filled with candy, toys, books and other goodies were donated by the Oak Grove Improvement Association (OGIA), coordinated by their President, Carol Melle, with donations and volunteers from the Malden Rotary Club, Malden Kiwanis Club, Malden Citizen Action Group and Oak Grove Improvement Association. Malden Catholic High School Honor Society, under the guidance of moderator, Angela Lee, also made a pail for every child. What a blessing for parents to have for their children Easter morning!



April

Plastic storage bins and household items were a big help to homeless families in the motels. The items were donated by volunteers from St. Joseph's Parish in Wakefield Affirming Life Committee, working with our Motel Meals Outreach team.

May

Our annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet on May 9th welcomed about 250 volunteers to Anthony's in Malden for a complimentary dinner & award ceremony, sponsored by A & A Window Products in Malden. This is our opportunity each year to celebrate all our volunteers, to whom we are hugely indebted. We also honored as Volunteers of the Year: Shu Cho and Bob Nguyen in our Malden Pantry; Theresa O'Brien, Dolores Seward and Amanda Seward in our Everett Pantry; and Melissa Surgecoff in our Motel Meals Outreach. Special Recognition Awards went to the food pantry volunteer group from TILL (Toward Independent Living and Learning); First United Methodist Church in Melrose for tremendous commitment to fundraising \$15,000 for our building project; and Dana Brown, outgoing principal of Malden High School, for being a steadfast supporter of BOL and advocate of services for kids. The BOL/Barbara & Francis Brown scholarship awards went to Christopher Palladino and Tim Clifford in the Motel Meals Outreach, Amy Fong in the Evening Meals, and Domitila Herrera in the Malden Pantry.



June

We moved our evening meal program to a new location for Wednesdays and Thursdays: the American Legion Post 69, 368 Pleasant Street (Rt. 60) in Malden. *(see p. 2 for more details)*

Everett Community Growers partnered with BOL to provide organic produce for our food pantry during the summer growing season. In 2016 they started the Northern Strand Community Farm (NSCF), an organic farm cultivated by community volunteers specifically to provide produce for BOL. The produce is delivered to BOL once a week by teens on bicycle by way of the Northern Strand Community Trail.

July

Our annual Golf Tournament on July 11th raised over \$14,000 thanks to our Golf Committee - chaired by Scott Knowlton - golfers and sponsors! The tournament, held at Mount Hood Golf Club in Melrose, was followed by a great 19th Hole Dinner Event at Montvale Plaza in Stoneham featuring prizes and raffles to benefit BOL's food programs for the less fortunate in our communities. Tremendous thanks goes to Marty Murphy of Marty's Caterers for donating the meal and beautiful banquet facilities for the Dinner Event.

August

A slush cart and face painting were a big hit with homeless kids at the motels on August 16th. Volunteers from St. Joseph's Parish in Wakefield teamed up with our Motel Meals Outreach program to provide a fun afternoon for the children. The sound of children's laughter was contagious. When a face painting volunteer thanked two little boys for coming by, one of the boys replied "No, thank YOU for doing this for us."



September

We were able to upgrade our computer systems, storage, network, firewall and WIFI due to a grant of just under \$5,000 from the Catalyst Fund of BCBS of Massachusetts Foundation. Much thanks go to

volunteers who formed an IT team to help us implement the project, working with McKay Russo, BOL Food Pantry Coordinator. The upgrade will enable us to better and more efficiently serve our clients with free nutritious food, a key factor in maintaining health and aiding children's learning. The new systems will increase our productivity, reduce incompatibility problems, and increase digital security.

October

Our 24th Annual Walk for Bread & 5K Run on Oct 2nd was a success – raising nearly \$15,000 to help us feed neighbors in need! About 250 walkers and runners participated, including a big contingent from the Malden High School Team Captains Councils. Honda Cars of Boston was onsite distributing snacks & beverages. Women from the Malden Islamic Center did henna hand tattooing, which is always very popular with the participants. Pisa Pizza of Malden donated 50 pizzas for participants. DJ Marc Cherone / Curtis Knight Entertainment spun tunes throughout the day. East Boston Savings Bank was onsite with their Mobile Banking Unit. Participants received T-shirts thanks to our T-Shirt sponsors: Zoila & Michael Corricelli, Mark & Alice Golub, and an anonymous donor. Thank you to all our other sponsors as well!



November

Our annual "Don't be Alone on Thanksgiving" Dinner on November 24th at Malden High School was a wonderful outpouring of caring and community spirit, providing over 900 meals to people in need or alone. 540 of those were delivered to senior citizens and homeless families thanks to Gene Pinkham and the Knights of Columbus Council 13966 in Malden. The rest of the meals were served to guests at the sit-down feast, with seconds and take-home meals. Great thanks go to the hundreds of volunteers, donors, and those who provided



food. US Senator Ed Markey and his wife were on hand to help, as was Malden Councillor-at-Large Deb DeMaria who welcomed folks on behalf of the City of Malden, saying "Just take a look around you at all the diversity - this is what we're about...coming together as a community." Huge thanks to Marty's Caterers for loads of mashed potatoes, gravy & stuffing, as well as to Ferry Street Food and Drink, Anthony's Caterers, Malden Mayor Gary Christenson, and folks at Forestdale Community Church, Ferryway School and Salemwood School.

December

Our annual community Christmas Day dinner was shared for the first time at Malden High School, providing over 900 meals to local residents. Many guests thanked the volunteers and said how much they enjoyed the meal - and the beautiful location made possible by Principal Ted Lombardi and Mayor Gary Christenson. We are greatly indebted to all the volunteers from Temple Tiferet Shalom in Peabody and Congregation Agudas Achim Ezrath Israel in Malden. We are most especially indebted to Dr's Ed & Jon Weiner for coordinating the whole event, cooking, and soliciting financial contributions and food



donations. Huge thanks also to Joan Meader & Paul Mongeau for coordinating the delivery of over 500 meals to senior citizens and homeless families, and thanks as well to the dozens of volunteer drivers. Thank you to the businesses that donated food, including Ferry Street Food and Drink in Malden, Bimbo Bakeries, and La Patisserie. God bless everyone who brought the true spirit of Christmas to those in need.



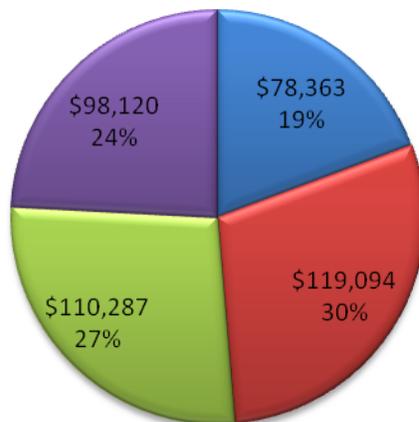
Bill worked for years in a manufacturing job, earning good money, but was let go about four years ago. He thought he'd be able to find something quickly, but many resumes and interviews later, he still had no offers. Eventually he ran through his savings. He started selling off his electronics, gold jewelry, and anything he had of value. Finally he was having trouble meeting his basic costs of life. A friend told him about the BOL evening meals. He started coming regularly and was very grateful for at least one full meal a day. At last he got the news: he landed a great-paying job!

Bread of Life Sources of Funds 2016

Total income:
\$405,864

Donated space, goods
& services: \$260,000

Income just covers
expenses (net \$550)



- Federal, State & Local Grants & Contracts
- Foundation & Private Grants
- Contributions from Partner Organizations, Individuals, Businesses, Churches and Memorials
- Fundraising Events

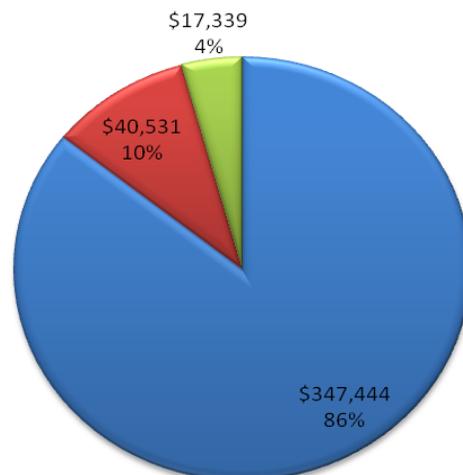
As of 12/31/16:

Cash reserve:
\$270,641
or 8 months of
operating
expense

Building Fund:
\$111,846
Total Assets:
\$549,154
Total Liabilities:
-\$8,602
Total Equity:
\$557,756

Bread of Life Use of Funds 2016

Total expense: \$405,314



- Program Expense
- Administration
- Fundraising

Bread of Life Partner Organizations 2016

Providing meals and major program support

Everett

American Muslim Center
Bank of New York Mellon
City of Everett, Mayor's Office of Human Services,
Office of Community Development

Malden

American Legion Post 69
Cambridge Health Alliance Malden Family
Medicine Center
City of Malden, Malden Redevelopment Authority
Congregation Agudas Achim Ezrath Israel
First Baptist Church
First Church in Malden, UCC
First Lutheran Church
First Parish in Malden, Universalist
Forestdale Community Church
Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
Knights of Columbus – Immac. Concep. #13966
Knights of Columbus - Santa Maria Council #105
Malden Catholic High School
Malden Lions Club
Malden Teen Enrichment Center
Mystic Valley Elder Services
Outreach Community & Reform Center
Partnership for Community Schools in Malden
Sacred Hearts Parish
St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph's Parish

Medford

City of Medford Office of Community
Development
Medford Community Life Group, Grace Chapel
St. Francis of Assisi Church

Melrose

First Baptist Church
First Congregational Church
First United Methodist Church
Green Street Baptist Church
Melrose Highlands Congregational Church
Melrose Rotary Club
Melrose Unitarian Universalist Church

Peabody - Temple Tiferet Shalom

Reading - Church of the Good Shepherd

Wakefield - Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Motel Outreach Partners:

Anthony's Caterers, Malden, Bobby C's Restaurant,
Melrose, Cheverus School, Malden, Community
Cooks, Somerville, Food For Free, Cambridge, Hanley
Kitchen, Leon Donnelly Kitchen, Melrose Knights of
Columbus #128, St. Mary's School, Melrose.

Bread of Life Board of Directors 2016

President: Andrew McNeilly
(Partner Org: New Life Community)

Vice President: David Hart (At-Large)

Treasurer: Cynthia Robillard
(Partner Org: Good Shepherd United Methodist
Church, Malden)

Secretary: Séan Twomey (At-Large)

Directors:
Zoila Corricelli (At-Large)

Mark Golub (At-Large)

Michael Cherone
(Partner Org: St. Joseph's, Malden)

Morgan Hunte
(Partner Org: Malden Teen Enrichment Center)

Mary Beth Leon
(Partner Org: Cheverus School, Malden)

Kathleen McKenna
(Partner Org: Sacred Hearts Parish, Malden)

Dan Perry
(Partner Org: Forestdale Community Church,
Malden)

Weimin Tchen (At-Large)

Bread of Life Staff 2016

Full-Time Staff:

Executive Director: Thomas J. Feagley

Deputy Director: Gabriella Snyder Stelmack

Food Pantry Coordinator: McKay Russo

Part-Time Staff:

Food Access Coordinator: Anson Kwong

Meal Program Liaison: John Robillard

Food Bank & Senior Outreach Driver: Maria Tiro

Everett Food Pantry Coordinator: Lou Barsotti

Everett Food Pantry Truck Loader: Wilbert
Augustin

Food Pantry Cleaner: Malika Erroboa

Meal Program Custodian: Doug Rogers