March 2019 News & Updates

Reflections from the Director

I've come to realize in my 30 years with Bread of Life that along with faith, perseverance is absolutely essential. "We walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Cor. 5:7). With the twists and turns of the path ahead unknown, we have to move forward one step at a time trusting in God. And we have to keep putting one foot in front of the other through obstacles, struggles, disappointments and delays. "Great works are performed not by strength, but perseverance." (Samuel Johnson.) Hunger, homelessness, poverty, unemployment, racism are things Bread of Life has been fighting for years, and we continue to fight. Our Capital Campaign is halfway toward its goal of $2.9 million goal to build our new facility bringing kitchen, multi-purpose hall, pantry and offices "Under One Roof", and we persevere through every twist and turn. And as we do, we see a lot that gives us hope. Families, schools, churches and businesses volunteer to prepare meals for homeless and isolated families and individuals, to collect food for us to distribute to struggling neighbors, to deliver meals and groceries to the elderly, to donate funds to build our new facility. Thank you and God bless each of you for persevering in doing good and for helping to create a better, more equitable community where everyone has access to healthy food and opportunities to thrive. "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." (Hebrews 12:1)

Gabriella Snyder Stelmack
Executive Director
P.S. If you'd like to help our "Under One Roof" campaign, here are some ideas: create a fb or online fundraising challenge, organize a fundraiser, host a house party, connect us with someone who might be able to help. For more info, contact Patty Kelly, Development Director: Patty.Kelly@breadoflifemalden.org, 781-820-4749.

Please click here for more information on our "Under One Roof" Campaign.

New Director of Development Hired!

Bread of Life is so very pleased to announce the hiring of Patty Kelly as the new Director of Development! Check out this excerpt from an article the Malden Advocate did about her...Welcome aboard Patty!

Patty Kelly is taking on a new challenge as director of development for Bread of Life
The Malden Advocate, Friday, Feb. 1, 2019
By Barbara Taormina

Patty Kelly is a familiar face around Malden. Former classmates probably remember her from their years at Malden High School and her more recent role with the MHS Alumni Association. Some people might recall that she booked their family vacation back in her days as a travel agent. The business community knows her as a former president and an advisory board member of the Malden Chamber of Commerce. Scores of people know her from the 10 years she served as director of community engagement for Housing Families.

Starting next week, Malden can get to know Kelly all over again in her new role as director of development for Bread of Life, a faith-based nonprofit organization that provides food, comfort and spiritual support to those in need in Malden and surrounding communities.

"Bread of Life is a true gem in Malden," said Kelly. "The mission is so compelling: food for the body, nurturing for the soul."

Kelly said part of what drove her to her new job was hearing Bread of Life's Executive Director Gabriella Snyder Stelmack talk about her passion for the organizations, its mission and its overarching goal of promoting peace and justice by alleviating hunger, poverty and need. "I'm here to support Gabriella and I think we'll be the dynamic duo." she said.

State of the City Address

Executive Director, Gabriella Stelmack, Board members and friends enjoyed attending Malden's State of the City Address held on February 26th at Anthony's of Malden and sponsored by the Malden Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Gary Christenson delivered the address highlighting all the exciting things that are happening in Malden!
BOL plays Family Feud!

The Melrose Rotary is a wonderful supporter of the Bread of Life and we are so delighted to be invited to this fun-filled event on March 9th! We will be one of 18 teams competing in a friendly game of Family Feud! It will be held at Memorial Hall in Melrose. Doors open at 7pm and the game begins at 7:30pm. There will be a cash bar and snacks, celebrity guests and a 50/50 raffle. Come join the fun! All proceeds will benefit Melrose Rotary's Charitable Fund.

Craftback Night to Benefit Bread of Life!

Create a festive Wine Bottle Vase just in time for St. Patrick’s Day!
Hosted by Gracious Concepts
Portion of the proceeds to benefit Bread of Life’s Capital Campaign

When: Monday, March 11, 2019

Where: Dockside Restaurant, 229 Centre Street, Malden

Time: 7PM

Cost: $30 per person includes complimentary cocktail (up to $8) and all craft supplies.

For more information and to register: HERE (portion of proceeds to benefit BOL)
Comedy Show to benefit BOL

Don't miss out on what promises to be a great night of comedy! Featuring Steve Sweeney, John Pizzi and Danny Gill! Tickets are going fast so don't wait!

Sunday, March 24th
Pearl Street Station Restaurant
53 Summer St., Malden
Tickets $20 per person
Doors open 6:30 PM
Show starts 8PM

Portion of the proceeds benefit Bread of Life's Capital Campaign

Standing in the Gap...

One of our volunteers was shopping at Wegman's in Medford and was asked at check-out if she'd like to donate to the Greater Boston Food Bank. "No," she replied "that's a wonderful organization but I donate and volunteer locally." The cashier said that one reason she liked to work at Wegman's was because it collected for the food bank. "I was actually homeless for a while." she said, "I lost my job and then my house. Here I am. I'm a responsible person. If it could happen to me, it could happen to anybody. I know that some people look down on you when you're homeless. But all it takes is a couple bad events to have that happen to you. I ended up staying in a motel." That caught the BOL volunteer by surprise. "What motel? Where?" It turns out it was one of the motels BOL used to deliver food to. "So you know Bread of Life!" she said. "Oh...what wonderful people," the cashier said, "My life was turned around by Bread of Life."

* Although this story is true, the photo used does not correspond to the actual people in order to protect their privacy.

Update on temporary meal site

The Salvation Army has told us that they may be delayed from moving back into their building until June due to more renovation work needed than they anticipated. Our grateful thanks go to the First Baptist Church for graciously extending their welcome and allowing us to continue serving our meals there Tuesday through Friday at least through the end of May. We will keep you updated over the next few months as we learn more from the Salvation Army about their progress. Cap't. Deb and the congregation are in our prayers. Our evening meal program is as follows: Tuesday through Friday, at the First Baptist Church, corner of Main & Salem Streets in Malden, 5:30-6:30 pm.

Shop and Smile
If you shop at Amazon, every purchase will result in a donation to Bread of Life if you register at Amazon Smile and select us as your designated charity. The big shopping season is upon us and this is a great way to give back! You can sign up at Amazon Smile [here](https://www.amazonSmile.com).

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