April 2020 News & Updates

Reflections from the Director

I am in awe of our volunteers and contributors. We keep marveling at the great outpouring of support that's been enabling us to make sure families, senior citizens and the newly out-of-work have the food they need during this crisis. As many of our older volunteers self-isolate for safety's sake, new volunteers have appeared to help at our food pantry and evening meals. Earlier this week we wondered if we would have to close our pantry for the day because we didn't have enough volunteers. Today, we have enough new helpers to know that our next pantry distribution will be fully staffed! People have been donating prepared meals for our evening take-out meal program. Others have contributed groceries, drinks and snacks. Several individuals and groups have made sure we have face masks and sanitizing products. And many have made financial contributions to enable us to quickly adapt to changing conditions.

The old hymn says "Oh God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home." God has guided Bread of Life through many storms and uncertain times, and we see that provision now. We're all in this together...and we'll all get through this together.

Thank you for all you're doing to make that possible.
Stay safe & well.

God bless you,
Gabriella Snyder Stelmack
Executive Director

Gabriella's Video Message

P.S. Our "Under One Roof" campaign continues to gather momentum, despite the crisis. Please like us and follow us on facebook and follow us on twitter. If you know of a
Encore Provides Relief

Our friends at Enore Boston Harbor have donated $25,000 for Bread of Life’s COVID-19 emergency relief efforts. From day one, Encore employees have been advocates for Bread of Life. Encore staff volunteer their time to serve families at BOL evening meals, Encore restaurants donate much needed and appreciated food for our pantries, and Encore donated proceeds from their preview days to BOL. This donation is a continuation of their generous support and will help feed more seniors and families during these trying times. We are very grateful for all you do for our community.

[Read article here](#)

Answering the Call

Bread of Life's Executive Director Gabriella Snyder Stelmack with BOL board member, Doug Mayers. Thank you Marge Mayers for making 18 masks for Bread of Life’s pantry volunteers. We love our community!

Generous Support

The support from our community is amazing. We are pleased to announce a $7,500 donation from Exelon for Bread of Life's COVID-19 emergency relief efforts. Exelon Generation and employees are great friends of Bread of Life, providing financial assistance and volunteering time in our food pantry. We appreciate your continued partnership and support. THANK YOU!

Much needed help!

We're so grateful and happy to announce Dunkin' Joy in Childhood Foundation is contributing $5,000 to Bread of Life's COVID relief fund. As BOL continues to serve more families and children, this generous donation is very much appreciated!
**Honda Cars Delivers**

Thank you Honda Cars Of Boston! With your help, we are on our way to distributing over 300 backpacks (and counting!) filled with nutritious food and snacks to City of Everett students. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**Women Making a Difference**

Did you know Bread of Life's Marcia Manong is being honored as a Zonta Club of Malden's Woman Making a Difference? Marcia, you're terrific and we look forward to celebrating you and the other fabulous honorees! Congratulations!

**Good News Percolating**

Thanks to a very generous friend of Bread of Life a donation was made for a new coffee maker and it has arrived! Bread of Life's John and Teri loading it on the truck, just in time for our evening meal service. Thank you, thank you, thank you to our special donor!
Beer+Bites April 4: Postponed!

Melrose Beer + Bites has been postponed due to the COVID-19 crisis. No new date has been scheduled as of yet. Stay tuned and check website for updates. 

Save the Date!

Monday, July 27th!
BOL Annual Golf Tournament
Mt. Hood Golf Club
Melrose, MA
Stay tuned for all the details!

Standing in the Gap...

A mother emailed us to say that she is “a 9 year Everett resident and have 4 children and a husband who is a disabled veteran. I have been having struggles with this virus going around but my family are healthy thank goodness. As you know there is limited access and food is very hard to come by with limited transportation and local pantries being cleaned out.” Bread of Life was able to deliver a box of groceries for her family. She told us “I am so thankful that there are people like you. I just want to thank you again for your help and kindness; my kids were very happy with a full stomach; please be safe and have a wonderful day.”

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

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.
Angela,

Thank you for signing up for our e-newsletter. Here's the most recent version.
Welcome to the Bread of Life community providing food for neighbors in need.
Gabriella

[Quoted text hidden]