August 2020 News & Updates

Reflections from the Director

As the COVID crisis lingers on, testing our limits, I'm continually amazed at the resilience and strength of Bread of Life staff, volunteers and donors. These brave, selfless, and generous folks keep showing up, keep giving and keep serving those most impacted by the virus and resulting food insecurity. Bread of Life is serving a record number of families and we anticipate helping more families in the months ahead.

"Food insecurity for U.S. households last week reached its highest reported level since the Census Bureau started tracking the data in May, with almost 30 million Americans reporting that they’d not had enough to eat at some point in the seven days through July 21."

A few startling facts about Bread of Life's services:

* our Malden-based food pantry saw the most patrons ever on July 10th: 196 families in 2 hours

* our grocery delivery program to seniors, disabled individuals and families self-isolating has grown to 220-250 grocery order deliveries per week

* our Everett Mobile Market, begun in May, distributes groceries to about 200 families per week

* our evening meal program distributes 120-140 meals per night, up from about 80 per night pre-COVID

We need more food. But we're also at the limit of how much food we can get and
Increase in total and new households served by BOL Malden food pantry since the start of the COVID restrictions in March

It's tremendously exciting to see the vision of our Under One Roof building project becoming a reality as we drive toward the finish line. You can help propel us forward by spreading the word. If you know of a business, individual or organization that may be interested in helping or finding out more, please contact Patty Kelly, Development Director: Patty.Kelly@breadoflifemalden.org, 781-820-4749.

Together, we are feeding thousands of struggling neighbors in the community, and with your resilience and strength, we will continue.

God bless you,
Gabriella Snyder Stelmack
Executive Director

Click here for information on our "Under One Roof" Campaign.

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.

We need Masks!

Bread of Life is in need of disposable masks for staff.
Please drop off at Bread of Life, 54 Eastern Avenue, Malden MA.
Thank you!

Lending a helping hand

Big thank you to State Senator Jason Lewis for helping Bread of Life with food deliveries and bringing attention to the economic impact of the Pandemic in our local communities. He is also encouraging Melrose and Wakefield
residents to complete this [Food Assessment Survey](#) to help local health departments understand the scope and extent of food insecurity in the community!

**Student Backpack Program**

Since the inception of Bread of Life’s Backpack Nutrition program, we are on track to distribute our 1,000th backpack to City of Everett school students. This is possible because of the support of you! Your donations ensure students have access to food and we thank you for your support. Here is a list of current needs. Donations may be dropped off at BOL main office, 54 Eastern Ave, Malden Tues- Fri 12-4 pm. Thank you!

**Items Needed for BOL’s Backpack Program**

- tuna to go
- Chef Boyardee canned pasta
- juice boxes (100% juice)
- raisins
- single serve applesauce
- chicken or beef stew pouches
- single serve mac n cheese
- pudding cups
- soup cups
- cracker sleeves
- fruit cups

**Future is in good hands**

Let's give a big shoutout to Daniel U., incoming senior at Melrose High School, for volunteering with Bread of Life and delivering groceries to senior citizens at Suffolk Manor Apartments in Malden. Thank you Daniel, we appreciate your help!

**Domino Effect**
Once again our friends Domino's Pizza in Malden donated 25 cheese pizzas for Bread of Life's Friday evening meal. Thank you Dominos for your generous support and for caring about our Bread of Life community.

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**It's in the Bag**

Sharing great news! During the month of August, Bread of Life will receive a $1.00 donation from each purchase of the $2.50 reusable Community Bag at Stop & Shop located at 1690 Revere Beach Parkway, in Everett. A fun way to support Bread of Life!

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**Cataldo to the Rescue**

We made a request for grocery bags for Bread of Life's food pantry distribution and Cataldo Ambulance Service answered our prayers. Cataldo is a great friend of Bread of Life. Last year they hosted a NARCAN training for BOL staff and volunteers. And today they've made sure our families are taken care of when they visit. Thank you Cataldo Ambulance!

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**Standing in the Gap...**

A man called from Chelsea to get groceries delivered for himself and his 80-year-old mother. He has to self-isolate and limit his trips to protect her. After they received the box he called to say "I just want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. It is much more food than I ever thought it would be and it's all things we can use. Honestly, if I had been able to go out and shop myself, I don't think I could have done a better job. And it really cheered up my mother too. Thank you so much."
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].

DONATE WITH CREDIT CARD

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781-397-0404 | info@breadoflifemalden.org | www.breadoflifemalden.org

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