Reflections from the Director

As we enter the final month of this difficult year, looking to celebrate the holiday season, I’m filled with...thankfulness. I’m so very thankful for all of you, so very proud to be part of this community. Thinking about what I've witnessed this year, my heart lifts. I see myself surrounded by a cloud of people who know what this season is really about. As Ruth Carter Stapleton wrote: "Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most." I think about our staff who have all gone above and beyond, working hard and long to make sure everyone in need receives groceries and meals, clothing and kindness. I think about a couple who started rescuing good food from local supermarkets so we could distribute it to the soaring numbers of people coming to our food pantry. I think about the guy who stepped off the bike path to give a sports drink to a homeless man. I think about the man who pressed a stack of cash into my hand to help pay for our pantry needs...the students who donated gift cards...the volunteer who picked up evening meals to deliver to a family in need...the woman who organized an office food drive...the mother and son who delivered dozens of grocery orders every week to senior citizens and COVID-quarantined
families. I could go on and on. Thank you to all of you out there, each and every one, for giving your funds, food, time and talents to bring the light of love to those who need it most.

*May you have the gladness of Christmas which is hope; the spirit of Christmas which is peace; the heart of Christmas which is love.* (Ada V. Hendricks)

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. And Instagram.

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**2nd Annual Pool Tournament**

Great day at Lafayette Associates
2nd Annual Pool Tournament in memory of Bread of Life’s Board President’s father Jeremiah Twomey. Thank you to all who participated and donated, and thank you to our Board President Sean Twomey (Jerry’s son) for matching donations. A total of $5,222 was raised for our capital campaign! What a wonderful tribute to your father and Bread of Life.

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**Pure Haven Fundraiser**

Sharing great news about the Pure Haven fundraiser hosted by Joanne Davey Lancaster to benefit Bread of Life!

"Thank you to all that joined PureHaven's fundraiser for Bread of Life. The food and gift cards have been distributed at the evening meal - the families that received the food and gift cards were so grateful". - Cindy Guazzerotti-Robillard, BOL Board Member

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**Malden’s Finest!**
Thank you to the Malden Police Department for holding a food drive! Thanks to the many generous donors from the Malden community as well as local businesses!

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**Giving Thanks**

Thanksgiving Eve's Bread of Life grab 'n go meal was provided by St. Joseph's Parish, Malden. Thank you for the delicious tuna casserole! We also provided turkey dinners for our families to take and enjoy on Thanksgiving day! Thanks to all who roasted turkeys and donated to BOL and a special thank you to Tim Rufo & friends for providing pies (for the 11th year!) Though it was a challenging year for everyone, knowing that we were all in this together made all the difference in the world!

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**Melrose Farmer’s Market**

Thank you to the Melrose Farmer's Market and their community for contributing nearly 300 pounds of food from donations! With their vendor Oakdale Farms adding another 100 pounds of produce, totaling 400 pounds of food delivered by volunteers from The Food Drive to Bread of Life! The Food Drive is a local community-driven organization committed to transforming food rescue into food access.
**Malden Catholic Shines**

Senior class members of Malden Catholic's National Honor Society collected 15 $10.00 gift cards for Stop & Shop and 15 $5.00 gift cards for Dunkin'. Each gift card was signed in a Thanksgiving card for our families. Thank you to the 36 students who brought sunshine to Bread of Life!

**It's in the Bag**

Have you heard the news?! For the month of December, Bread of Life has been selected as the beneficiary of the Stop & Shop Community Bag Program at two stores! Each time the $2.50 reusable Community Bag is purchased at Stop & Shop, 99 Charles Street in Malden and 540 Squire Road in Revere we will receive a $1 donation!

**Backpack Nutrition Program**

Our programs keep growing! Bread of Life’s Brandon loaded up his truck to deliver over 1,900 food items to be distributed to Everett school students through Bread of Life’s Backpack Nutrition Program sponsored by The Foundation Trust!

**“Bread of Life’s Backpack Nutrition Program sponsored by The Foundation Trust”**

**Volunteers Needed**
Please consider volunteering with Bread of Life! You'll be making a difference in the lives of those less fortunate! Thank you.

Standing in the Gap

The day after Thanksgiving was moving in day for the homeless elderly man who's been living in his car for many years, most recently by the bike path near our office. We brought blankets, bedding, food and his personal things to his wonderful room. Thank you to all of you who offered prayers and helped him with food, money, clothing, blankets and conversation while he was living in his car. This small victory in the ongoing fight against homelessness was made possible by many people and organizations working together. Special thanks go to Malden Mayor Gary Christenson, Malden Police Chief Kevin Molis, Capt Glenn Cronin, BOL Meal Coordinator Maria Tiro, Carole & Rolly working with Metro North Housing Corp and Metro Housing Boston.

Food for the Body...Nurture for the Soul

Donate with Credit Card