Reflections from the Director

_The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes…Unless [one] starts afresh about things, [one] will certainly do nothing effective._ - G.K. Chesterton

What a relief psychologically and emotionally to close the door on 2020! And now we prepare to walk, head high, backbone strong, senses alert, into the opportunities and challenges of 2021. In the final week of December, we were stunned and elated when a young, local couple who are longtime supporters of BOL presented us with a check for $150,000 for our capital campaign! With this tremendous gift, we now have less than $150,000 to raise to meet our fundraising goal, in addition to a construction loan we will secure. We immediately started gearing up our development work to look toward a Spring 2021 construction start date. If you would like to be part of closing the final fundraising gap, please click the link below!
If 2020 showed me anything, it's what we're capable of when we come together with determination, self-sacrifice and compassion. Hundreds of volunteers and donors along with the staff of Bread of Life accomplished monumental things in 2020. They made sure friends and neighbors in thirteen communities had food on their tables in the midst of economic crisis, illness and death. At the start of the year, BOL was serving about 2,000 households per month, which grew to over 4,000 per month; 3,800 individuals served per month grew to 15,500 per month; bags of groceries distributed grew from 8,700 per month to 12,000 per month. We started an Everett Mobile Market to distribute groceries every week to about 120 families per month. We started a grocery delivery program to senior citizens, disabled residents and COVID-quarantined households to make 300-400 deliveries per month. Together we have been able to provide critical supports to tens of thousands of people who are struggling. And moving forward, Bread of Life will continue to be here to combat the ongoing crisis in food insecurity. Thank you for being part of this crucial, immense and inspiring work.

May God bless, strengthen and equip you in this new year of opportunities and challenges.
Gabriella

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.

Christmas Dinner 2020 style

In addition to serving over 600 guests at Bread of Life's Christmas Dinner, Dr. Ed Weiner and Dr. Jon Weiner collected over $4,600 in donations for our programs!
Thank you to all who donated and thank you to everyone who volunteered to serve meals to our guests including State Representatives, Steve Ultrino and Paul Donato, Malden Mayor Gary Christenson and Ward 1 City Councillor, Peg Crowe. We appreciate you sharing your Christmas Day with Bread of Life.
Dinner featured on 7News

Melrose Together

Thank you Melrose Together for much needed donations for our
families. Each of these 70 bags has fixings (stuffing, mashed potatoes, vegetables, gravy), dessert, a gift card to supermarket, game for kids and blanket. Thank you for your support and for thinking of our families.

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**Kiwanis Gift Card donation**

Thank you to our friends Malden Kiwanis for generous donation of Dunkin’ and Stop & Shop gift cards for our families. We appreciate your partnership and thank you for supporting Bread of Life!

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**Melrose Kids Food Drive**

Bread of Life would like to thank the Melrose Kids Porch Pick-up Food Drive for the fantastic donations. Thank you to the Melrose families who donated and thank you MelroseKids for organizing such a great food drive!

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**Eastern Bank Foundation**
Thank you Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation for generous grant of $25,000 to support of Bread of Life’s COVID-19 relief efforts. We are very grateful for your partnership. Read more here in Wakefield Daily Item:

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**Gloves Request**

Special request for donations of new (preferred) or gently worn insulated, waterproof gloves. Large and XL sizes most needed. Drop off at 54 Eastern Ave. Tues-Fri 12-4. Thank you!

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**Holiday Cheer**

Here’s Kasey McKenna and BOL board member Kathleen McKenna sharing holiday cheer! Kasey and some Nashoba High friends donated gifts and Dunkin’ cards for Bread of Life’s guests. Thank you Kasey and friends!

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**Pledge Donation**

Big thank you to Bob Brown, Chairman of the Grants Committee of Beth Israel Senior Citizens Housing, Inc, presenting Gabriella a $100,000 check for Bread of Life’s Under One Roof capital campaign, the first installment of their $250K pledge! Thank you for your generous support!

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**Gift of Warmth**
A recent Fundraiser by Colorstreet, sponsored by our friend Anita Morley White donated 30 thermal tops to Bread of Life. The warm tops have been distributed at our evening meal and our guests were so very thankful.

Giving twice as nice

We received not one, but TWO donations of $1,000 each on behalf of Cummings Properties employees and their Cummings Community Giving program. Cummings Properties staff are given the opportunity to direct $1,000 to a local charity of their choice and they chose to honor Bread of Life! These generous donations will help many families and we are very grateful.

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

Sharing A note from a grocery delivery from Christmas week:

12/23/20 "Hi, thank you so much for the food 😊. My family is very grateful and blessed of having good people like you. I hope your Christmas be amazing as [it will be for] many your support and help are going to. That is not enough words to thank you about all the help 😊. Thank you very much.

-A Grateful Mom and Dad with two children.
Merry Christmas 🎄 🎄

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

Food for the Body...Nurture for the Soul

Donate with Credit Card

Bread of Life | 54 Eastern Avenue (Rear), Malden, MA 02148

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