November Monthly Newsletter

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Bread of Life
Food for the body...Nurture for the soul

Reflections from our Director

This month, with Bread of Life preparing to make Thanksgiving a day of happiness and contentment throughout our community, I'm thankful that...

In a world where nations are at war with each other and with themselves...there are those who are facilitating listening and compromise;
In a world where families are leaving behind their homes and livelihoods to escape violence and war...there are those who are taking them into safety;
In a world where people are not paid what they're worth or enough to meet all their essential needs...there are those working to bring up wages and create jobs;
In a world where people have no place to live...there are those creating affordable housing;
In a world where people don't have enough food...there are those distributing free food throughout their community, nation and the world.

In short, I'm grateful for YOU. You make a real difference in the lives of families who are struggling in our community.

May God bless you and your family this Thanksgiving with happiness, contentment, and a heart overflowing with gratitude and love.
Under One Roof Update

We are thrilled to announce that the closing on financing for our project took place on November 8th! We can now start construction, beginning with sinking the pilings for the foundation, and see the project through to completion in 14 months.

We could not have gotten to this point without the perseverance, commitment, wisdom, knowledge, skills and vision of Alice Krapf, our Project Manager who has stuck with us for 13 years; Chris Chitouras, Chair of our Capital Campaign Committee; and Patty Kelly, our Development Director. The board of directors and I offer our deepest thanks and gratitude to them and to the 1,100+ individuals, businesses, foundations, civic groups, schools and faith communities that raised over $4.5 million toward our $5.8 million project. Thank you for making this dream come true!

Gabriella

P.S. That said, we still need to raise just over $52,000 for the project due to cost increases in materials being experienced by our general contractor, and interest rate hikes that have impacted our bank loan. On behalf of all the children, families and senior citizens Bread of Life serves, thank you.

Making a Difference

Some of the responses we've received from the community about our food pantry:

"I speak Haitian Creole but little English. I feel happy since the volunteer helps me to interpret when getting food."
"Great place to help your community! Wonderful food pantry and so many selections of food. Lots of fresh vegetables!"
"If you want the best possible value in helping the poorest and neediest people in Malden, join with us."
"Bread of Life has many wonderful people to distribute food as they are all so very nice and helpful!"
"Bread of Life plays an important part in helping to keep our community a wonderful place. They are truly dedicated to helping those in need and the staff are all wonderful."

Community News

**Foundation Trust matching gift program**
Read about Foundation Trust matching gift program to benefit Bread of Life’s Backpack Nutrition Program. When you donate, the Foundation Trust will match your gift. To date, over 5,000 backpacks filled with nutritious food have been distributed to City of Everett students. Learn more here in Advocate Newspapers https://advocatenews.net/everett/news/the-foundation-trust-challenge-match-to-support-bread-of-lifes-backpack-nutrition-program/

“The Francis and Barbara Brown Thanksgiving Dinner”
What was previously called the “Don’t Be Alone on Thanksgiving” dinner, has now been renamed in honor of Francis and Barbara Brown, the founding coordinators of the dinner. Bread of Life and City of Malden (Official)’s Office of Mayor Gary Christenson, invite you to this FREE community dinner on Thanksgiving Day, November 24th. Please join us for dine-in dinner, 12-2pm at Malden High School. Take-home meals available for pick-up at 1:30 pm. Meal delivery, coordinated by Craig Spadafora Councillor-at-Large, Malden will be available for senior citizens and disabled individuals by calling Maria Luise 781-640-1320. Please note: senior citizens who ARE NOT Mystic Valley Elder Services clients can call Maria Luise at the # listed. Senior citizens who ARE clients of Mystic Valley Elder Services need to call their MVES case manager if interested in receiving a meal delivery. Volunteers and donations of roasted turkeys needed and appreciated! Registration required.
To learn more about the meal, to register to volunteer, and to sign up to donate roasted turkeys, visit: https://www.breadoflifemalden.org/events

PCAA Malden Modified Softball League
Thank you to PCAA Malden Modified Softball League and Commissioner Geoff Harris for hosting a fundraiser for Bread of Life! Here is
Volunteer Opportunities

Cantonese, Creole, Mandarin, Portuguese, Spanish and other language speakers welcome!

Malden Food Pantry, 109 Madison St., Malden
Wednesdays 12-6:30pm; and Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 12-5pm
Come for the whole time or just a few hours. No need to contact us beforehand. Just drop in when you can. Help load/unload food from vehicles, stock shelves/refrigerators/freezers, sort food, organize/clean, pack groceries, help with food distribution, work with the public, do data entry, and more.

Grocery Delivery Program, 109 Madison St., Malden
Wednesdays and Thursdays any time from 10am-5pm
Help deliver boxed groceries to homebound individuals in your vehicle. Serving Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Lynn, North Reading, Revere, Stoneham, Wakefield, Winchester, Winthrop, Woburn.

Everett Mobile Market
Come for the whole time or just a few hours. No need to contact us beforehand. Just drop in when you can.
Preparation: Thursdays 8:30-11:30am, 109 Madison St., Malden
Help pack groceries and load food onto truck.
Distribution: Thursdays 3:00-5pm, Lafayette School Parking Lot, 117 Edith St., Everett
Help unload and distribute groceries from truck; register/check people in.

Everett Backpack Nutrition Program, 109 Madison St., Malden
Preparation: Fridays any time from 12-4 pm
Help pack backpacks with breakfast, lunch, supper and snack items for students in need.
Distribution: Mondays 11am-1pm
Help make deliveries to schools.

Food Access Project, 109 Madison St., Malden
Help implement activities and translation to improve food access.

**Please Note:** Park on the street so our vehicles can come and go freely! Masks are required unless you’re vaccinated.

**And...** There are many other ways to get involved and make a difference too... Be creative!

**Contact:** Eileen Mullen, Volunteer Coordinator: Eileen.Mullen@BreadofLifeMalden.org or 781-397-0404 (main office)

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