

## February Monthly Newsletter

1 message

**Bread of Life** <info@breadoflifemalden.org>  
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To: gabriella.stelmack@breadoflifemalden.org

Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 11:30 AM

## February Monthly Newsletter



# Bread of Life

*Food for the body...Nurture for the soul*

### Reflections from our Director

During 2021, with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continuing, Bread of Life made a significant impact stopping food insecurity in our communities:

- Provided groceries to 37,700 households that included 107,800 people, 28% children, 46% adults, and 26% senior citizens
- Distributed 83,700 bags of groceries
- Delivered 10,500 grocery orders door-to-door to senior citizens, disabled residents and COVID-quarantined households
- Distributed 3,036 nutrition backpacks to students in Everett public schools
- Delivered 2,800 meals and 8,000 bags of groceries to homeless individuals and families sheltered in local motels

• Provided 47,400 prepared meals through our evening meal program

Our staff and hundreds of volunteers went to the wall, taking on greatly increased work and risks to serve thousands of struggling families in 13 communities. At the start of 2020, Bread of Life's food distribution programs were serving about 1,800 households/3,400 individuals per month. At the height of the pandemic in November 2020, we served 4,000 households/15,000 individuals per month. Thankfully, the need has decreased, but not nearly enough. As of December 2021, we were still serving 3,200 households/9,600 individuals per month. This is 1.8 times the number of households and 2.8 times the number of individuals over pre-pandemic levels.



We could not have done this without YOUR help, our volunteers and donors!  
We worked together to pull everyone in our community through this crisis.

Bread of Life's ***Under One Roof*** vision of feeding more families more efficiently in a new state-of-the-art building has been delayed again by the COVID pandemic, but is still on track to becoming a reality. BOL staff and volunteers accomplished our move out of [54 Eastern Ave, Malden](#) during the Spring of 2021 in preparation for construction. We leased [214 Commercial St., Suite 209, Malden](#) in May for our office and [109 Madison St., Malden](#) in June for our food pantry/warehouse. We had been pushing for a December 2021 demolition/construction start. However, in November 2021 we received a construction cost estimate that was much higher than originally estimated due to increased costs for labor and materials. We put the project out to bid, receiving lower bids, and in late January 2022 selected a general contractor. Even with the lower bid, Bread of Life needs an additional \$1 million plus for the project. Our strategy for raising these additional funds includes:

- Seeking additional financing from our bank
- Working with our architects on additional possible value engineering.
- Informing donors of the cost increase and asking if they would be able to increase their support.
- Working with the Malden Redevelopment Authority to seek additional funding through the City.
- Continuing with campaign fundraising events

We'd be honored by your support to help Bread of Life cross the finish line by donating to our Under One Roof Campaign. Any amount is greatly appreciated, and your generosity will enable Bread of Life to feed more families and children in the years ahead.

God bless you,  
Gabriella

## Community News

### **Bread of Life Annual Meeting**

Join us on Monday, February 28, 2022

from 5:00 PM 7:00 PM

We welcome anyone who would like to learn more about Bread of Life. Please email

[gabriella.stelmack@breadoflifemalden.org](mailto:gabriella.stelmack@breadoflifemalden.org) to

request the ZOOM link. [Click here for the meeting agenda.](#)



## Wakefield Co-operative Bank

Exciting news! During the month of February, our friends at Wakefield Co-operative Bank are hosting a food drive to benefit Bread of Life, The Food Drive and Wakefield Food Pantry, Inc. Each week there are themed ways to donate much needed food items. We love the creativity of this fun food drive and we appreciate the kind support!



## Great Nonprofits

A shout out to Great Nonprofits who encourages volunteers/clients/donors to write reviews & share their stories with them, [click here](#) to see all of the wonderful Bread of Life reviews.



## The Foundation Trust Challenge Match to Support Bread of Life's Backpack Nutrition Program

Looking to make an impact in 2022? Over 5,000 backpacks filled with healthy snacks have been distributed to City of Everett students through Bread of Life's Backpack Nutrition program, sponsored by Foundation Trust. This year, the Foundation Trust is offering a challenge match. When YOU donate, the Foundation Trust will match your generous gift. Any amount greatly appreciated. [Click here to Donate](#)



## Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers needed Thursdays between 8:30 am and 12 pm at our pantry, [109 Madison Street, Malden](#), to help pack groceries for the Everett Mobile Market. Call Charlene at 781-824-0564, or come to [109 Madison Street, Malden](#).



Volunteers needed Thursdays from 3-5 pm to distribute groceries at the Lafayette School, [117 Edith Street, Everett](#). Call Charlene at 781-824-0564, or come to the Lafayette School.

There are plenty of other volunteer opportunities available at Bread of Life. If you want to get involved and make a difference please [Visit our Website](#) or stop by our pantry at [109 Madison St. Malden, MA](#).

# *Food for the Body...Nurture for the Soul*

Follow us



Donate Today

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

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