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## January Monthly Newsletter

1 message

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Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 2:09 PM

## January Monthly Newsletter



### Reflections from our Director

Like many other people, I watched the holiday classic "It's a Wonderful Life" last week. The joyous climax of the story is the outpouring of support from friends and neighbors near and far for the hero's business and family in their hour of desperate need. I couldn't help but be reminded of the outpouring of support that Bread of Life witnessed in 2021. As the pandemic persisted, Bread of Life provided food for an extraordinary number of hard-pressed neighbors in thirteen communities. And we couldn't have done it without your help. Dozens of volunteers each week staffed the food pantries, evening meal and grocery delivery program. Hundreds upon hundreds of people donated food, prepared meals, gift cards, blankets, gloves, socks and money.



Bread of Life received a card recently that said "my sister and her husband...both struggle with homelessness and mental health issues. Thank you for providing help."

At the height of the pandemic we served 4,000 households of 15,000 individuals per month. Thankfully, the need has decreased, but not nearly enough. As of November 2021, we were still serving 2,800 households of 7,400 individuals per month. This is twice the number we were serving pre-pandemic.

Bread of Life's Under One Roof project to serve more families more efficiently in a new state-of-the-art building has been delayed again by the COVID pandemic. But we're still on track to making it a reality. We had been pushing for a December 2021 demolition / construction start but we received a construction bid which was much higher than anticipated due to COVID-related cost increases in labor and materials. We are working with our project development team, contractors, funders, bank and the City of Malden to close the gap. And we're spreading the word to all of you in the community.

In the words of Mother Teresa "*None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful.*"

Let's do something wonderful together in 2022 - building the new Bread of Life and making sure all our neighbors have access to healthy food!

God bless you,  
Gabriella

## Community News

### **Christmas Dinner**

Thank you Dr. Ed Weiner, Dr. Jon Weiner, Project Ezra, City of Malden (Official) Mayor Christenson, and volunteers who made the day special for many families! Over 1,000 were meals served. [Click here to read more.](#)



### **Cambridge Savings Bank**

The Cambridge Savings Bank Charitable Foundation has donated a \$20,000 food assistance grant to Bread of Life for program support. These funds will directly impact our work in providing nourishing food to families and children. We are most grateful for the ongoing support from Cambridge Savings Bank and their commitment to our community!



### **The Sewing Club and CCSR**

The Sewing Club and CCSR (Center for Citizenship and Social Responsibility) at the Andrew's Middle School in #Medford collaborated to make donations to Bread of Life. The Sewing Club made 71 toiletry bags and CCSR collected items to fill the



bags. These items are very much appreciated by our Bread of Life families. Thank you to the students who worked together to make this kind and generous donation!

### Salem Five Bank

A shout out to Salem Five for honoring Bread of Life with a donation to benefit our food programs as part of their #makeadifferencedecember campaign. Thank you Salem Five for your generous support and for all the good work you do in our community!



## 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*

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