

June Monthly Newsletter

1 message

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June Monthly Newsletter



Bread of Life

Food for the body...Nurture for the soul

Reflections from our Director

Bread of Life is pressing forward aggressively to begin demolition of [54 Eastern Ave](#) in Malden this summer and start the construction of our new Under One Roof central facility, a process that will take 14 months. Even as we contemplate the expansion of our programs made possible by this project, we already are expanding our impact through community partnerships:



The Farm is a City of Malden project, managed by Julie Mangan, consisting of raised beds planted, tended and harvested by volunteers specifically for donation of fresh, locally grown produce to Bread of Life. It's located along the Northern Strand Community Trail near Bryant Street.

The FoodDrive in Melrose, directed by Jana Gimenez, has a mission to promote food access, food justice, and climate action by rescuing wholesome food that would otherwise go to waste, and delivering it directly to local programs, including Bread of Life. They provide the equivalent of about 700 meals per month for our motel outreach.

Housing Families of Malden has been operating a shelter for homeless individuals since the start of 2021 with Bread of Life supplying food weekly for 25 residents. We deliver the equivalent of three meals per day per resident through prepared meals and groceries.

UMass Extension Nutrition Education Program is providing food demos and nutrition education events at the BOL Malden pantry during the upcoming year. We are aiming to demo multi-cultural dishes with input from pantry members and utilizing pantry ingredients.

Malden Community Fridges are filled once per week by Bread of Life with perishable and non-perishable foods. This is a community-run initiative that helps to provide free food to anyone in the local community 24/7, 365 days a week, coordinated by City Councillors Jadeane Sica and Craig Spadafora. The four community fridges are located across from Cambridge Health Alliance on 195 Canal St., in front of the Beebe School at [414 Pleasant St.](#), behind the U-Haul on the Bike Path at [420 Eastern Ave.](#), and on the corner of Lynn & Beach Streets near 155 Beach.

The Tri-City Hunger Network is convened every 2nd Tuesday of the month by Bread of Life staffer and community activist, Marcia Manong. This meeting brings together organizations and agencies fighting food insecurity in Malden, Medford and Everett. Participants include representatives of the Greater Boston Food Bank, Project Bread, ABCD, Cambridge Health Alliance, Melrose-Wakefield Healthcare, Tufts Health Plan, WIC, Mass Senior Action Council, YWCA Malden, YMCA Malden, the Eliot Family Resource Center in Everett and local food pantries.

School Transition and Special Education Programs have a worksite for students at the Bread of Life Malden pantry several days per week. Groups of students from Malden, Everett and Stoneham, who will not be receiving diplomas when they leave high school, are able to practice job skills volunteering in our food pantry.

The Bridge Learning Center partners with Bread of Life, enabling us to introduce our services to their students and involve them in volunteering at our pantry. The Bridge serves as a resource for students with language-based learning differences such as dyslexia.

Trader Joe's in Saugus, BJ's in Medford and Wegman's in Medford donate bread, produce, dairy products and prepared foods every week, which Bread of Life distributes through our evening meals, motel outreach and pantries.

Members of Bread of Life's YPAB Board (Young Professional Advisory Board) recently hosted food drives for BOL. Employees from Encore Boston Harbor and Turner Construction collected hundreds of pounds of food for our food pantry distribution. We are grateful to YPAB members Allison Stack and Beth Gibbons from Encore Boston Harbor, and Harrison Bond from Turner Construction for serving on our YPAB Board and thank them for encouraging colleagues to donate. Food drives always welcome and appreciated from community members. If interested in hosting a food drive, contact patty.kelly@breadoflifemalden.org for more info.

Bread of Life thrives on community partnerships like these. We connect individuals, groups, schools and businesses to share resources, skills and talents. We invite you to join with us to connect with the community and help families who are struggling.

God bless you,
Gabriella

Making a Difference

One pantry patron posted this comment

online at GreatNonprofits.com in May:
"I have been going to the Bread of Life pantry for two years now. The staff and volunteers are very kind, warm and caring. The pantry provides a fantastic variety of food, household products and personal products."



Bread of Life has been serving up KFC fried chicken regularly at our evening meals ever since we started receiving donations a few months ago. It's loved by many, but probably not more so than by this patron, a disabled senior citizen who lives in Everett public housing: "I can't believe we get to have KFC - and mashed potatoes to go with it! I can't afford to go there and it would be hard without a car anyway. What a treat!"

If you would like to make a donation to **Bread of Life's Under One Roof** project please [Click here to donate.](#)

Community News

The Cambridge Matignon School

Thank you The Cambridge Matignon School students for volunteering at Bread of Life; preparing and assembling food for delivery in our Grocery Delivery Program. We appreciate your time!



Save the Date!

Knock on Wood Benefit Concert

June 5, 2021 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
First Baptist Church, Melrose
Donations accepted, with a portion donated to BREAD OF LIFE



Volunteer Opportunities

Bread of Life is looking for volunteers for these programs:

Grocery Delivery Program

Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10:30 and 4:30
Starting from Bread of Life Food Pantry - 109 Madison St., Malden
- Help deliver boxed groceries to homebound individuals in your vehicle.



Evening Meals Program

Tuesdays through Fridays, 3:30 to 7:00

First Baptist Church - 493 Main St., Malden

- Sample tasks: Help unload food from van, prepare and pack meals for pick up, clean up and break down.

Everett Mobile Market

Thursdays, 2:00 to 5:00

Lafayette School Parking [Lot - 117 Edith St., Everett](#)

- Cantonese, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Spanish speakers needed!
- Sample tasks: Help distribute groceries from truck; interview recipients to complete application form.

Everett Backpack Nutrition Program

Delivery on Mondays 11:00 to 5:00; Packing on Fridays 12:00 to 4:00

Bread of Life Food Pantry - 109 Madison St., Malden

- Help pack backpacks with breakfast, lunch, supper and snack items for Everett Public School students in need; deliver to Everett Public Schools on Mondays.

We have many other volunteer opportunities available. If you or someone you know wants to make a difference and get involved, please contact our new Volunteer Coordinator Eileen Mullen at Eileen.Mullen@BreadofLifeMalden.org or 781-397-0404.

Food for the Body...Nurture for the Soul

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