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**March Monthly Newsletter**

1 message

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**Bread of Life** <info@breadoflifemalden.org>  
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Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 10:01 AM

## March Monthly Newsletter



# Bread of Life

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

### Reflections from our Director

Pushing through. This idea has been on my mind lately. After two years of fighting COVID and all the associated recommendations, restrictions and mandates, many of us feel it so hard to keep pushing through. When will it all end!? Each year around this time, I feel similarly about the bleak, cold winter. When will it all end? And that's when my heart is lifted to see the first crocus. There it is, pushing up through hardened soil and snow to bloom in the sun after months of waiting. It's not easy to push through, but often that's what it takes for us to grow stronger, to grow to our next level. At Bread of Life, we have been pushing ourselves for the past two years. We've pushed our physical and mental abilities and our resources sometimes to the limit to make sure our neighbors have the food they need. Our volunteers and staff have stood out in the cold day after day, week after week to load and unload food trucks and to distribute bags of groceries or prepared meals to struggling families, seniors and people who have no place to call home. We've had to be creative, resourceful and innovative, designing new delivery and distribution models and designing new, more effective staffing models. Like the crocus, our unwavering goal to push through has made us stronger and brought us to the next level of growth. We will continue with some of the innovations we developed, such as our grocery delivery program to senior citizens and disabled



residents, and our Everett Mobile Market. We will implement a more integrated, efficient and customer-friendly software platform for staff and end users of our services. And we are more prepared than ever to expand our programs and our impact on food insecurity in our new facility to be built at 54 Eastern Avenue, Malden.

Thank YOU for pushing through with us. We simply, truly could not have done it without your volunteer hours, financial gifts, hard work, fundraising events, food and product drives, and prayers.



God bless you,  
Gabriella

Gabriella Snyder Stelmack  
Executive Director

## Under One Roof Update

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. We moved out of [54 Eastern Ave, Malden](#) during the Spring of 2021 in preparation for construction.



Our temporary office is at [214 Commercial St., Suite 209, Malden](#) and our temporary food pantry warehouse is at 109 Madison St., Malden. Although we were hoping to begin construction of our new facility in December 2021, we received a construction cost estimate that was much higher than originally estimated due to increased costs for labor and materials. We re-bid the project and in January received a lower construction bid. But even with the lower bid, we still need to raise just under \$1 million for the project. We are seeking more financing from our bank, reaching out to existing donors, and working with the City of Malden which is assisting us in identifying funding sources for the gap. We are also reaching out to YOU, our valued supporter and friend, to help defray construction costs. You are the reason we are so close to accomplishing the goal of feeding more families in a safe and welcoming facility. Families will be nurtured Under One Roof, with access to a modern and updated food

pantry, a kitchen to cook and serve evening meals, and a distribution center where patrons can "shop" and where we can package groceries for deliveries to vulnerable and at-risk senior residents. With your help, we will cross the finish line. Any amount is greatly appreciated, and your generosity will enable Bread of Life to feed more families and children in the years ahead. [Click here to donate.](#)

## Community News

### Giggles Comedy Club

Are you looking forward to making plans in the spring? We've got just the event for YOU!

Join us at Comedy Night to Benefit Bread of Life on Thursday, May 5th at Giggles Comedy Club, featuring Robbie Printz, Frank Santorelli and Mark Riley Comedy. Tickets \$30 pp -includes

show and pizza. Join us for a night of pizza, comedy, raffles and fun! Reserve your spot by [clicking here](#), tickets must be purchased in advance.

We look forward to seeing you there!



### Melrose High School

Shout out to Shelagh, Kailey and Ally (not pictured) from Melrose High School National Honor Society.

They donate food and meals to Bread of Life for our evening meals program at least once a month!

Thank you for your kindness and generosity!



### Melrose Highlands Congregational Church

Thank you Melrose Highlands Congregational Church for volunteering at Bread of Life's evening dinner and for also helping to pack goody bags. Bread of Life runs on volunteers!



### Encore

Our friends Encore Boston Harbor hosted a competition between Encore teams to collect food items for Bread of Life. Teams donated and filled boxes with 2,100 pounds of food! Thank you



Encore team members for the ongoing support you give to Bread of Life. We are most grateful for your kindness and generosity.

## 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

Bread of Life | [214 Commercial St., Suite 209, Malden MA](#) | [www.breadoflifemalden.org](http://www.breadoflifemalden.org)

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