

# Real People • Real Food • Real Help • Real Hope

# Annual Report Fiscal Year 2016—July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016





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## Loaves & Fishes

A tribute from a client to the volunteers who work so hard to help those who are in need:

L ove for those in need	F riendly			
O ffering the best service	nterested in your well being			
A nswering a call to assist those in ineed	<b>&amp; S</b> eriously caring and involved			
${f V}$ ery compassionate and understanding	${f H}$ elping those who are in need			
E very service is made available	E nthusiastic and energetic			
S uch kindness and caring	<b>S</b> imply the best that they can be			
Thank you for giving us HOPE				

## Page 1

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

Loaves & Fishes exists as a mission of love and faith to provide food and temporary support services to residents of Ayer, Devens, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley, and advocates for changes by its clients that will promote independence and self-reliance.

## Dedication

This year's Annual Report is dedicated to the *COMMUNITY.* Because of your support, your financial and food donations, and your volunteer hours, Loaves & Fishes has been able to make a difference for hundreds of local families. You have provided hope to many, and we thank you.

"I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke and I saw that life is all service. I served and I saw that service is joy." — Kahlil Gibran

# A Message from the Executive Director and President of the Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Loaves & Fishes, thank you! Without the support of our volunteers and donors, we would not have been able to assist 811 families, nearly 2000 individuals! During the year over 600,000 pounds of groceries, including fresh produce, meats, shelf-stable items and personal care products, were distributed to our clients. Equally important as the gift of food was the gift of hope that your support provided.

Our clients will always be our main focus. While our mission is to provide food, it is also to advocate for change that will promote independence and self-reliance. We are committed to helping our clients navigate the confusing social service network, connecting them to community services and providing emotional support during a difficult time in their lives.

Over the years there have been many wonderful heartwarming stories of how Loaves & Fishes has made a difference in the lives of our clients. Jennifer, one of our clients, sums it up perfectly:

"My neighbor suggested I visit your food pantry. It was a very hard step to take, but I am grateful that I took that step. You have fed and clothed my family and treated us with respect and dignity, free of judgment. Your kindness has touched many more lives than you can imagine."

Operationally, it has been a year of growth for the Pantry. First, we have worked diligently to build our partnership with the Groton Neighborhood Food Project – an effort which has established over 25 neighborhoods which work together to provide a consistent flow of food to Loaves & Fishes. During this next year, thanks to a grant from the Nashoba Valley Health Care Foundation, we will be expanding this endeavor to other communities within our service area.

Secondly, we recognized the importance of developing the skills of our volunteers, Board and staff. Thanks to another grant opportunity, we were able to offer a variety of training which enhanced our ability to provide effective services to our clients.

Finally, we focused considerable energy on developing new business partnerships to help ensure the sustainability of the Pantry. We are pleased to introduce some of our newest partners: Shop n Save, Catania-Spagna, Whole Foods and Little Leaf Farm.

We are grateful for the caring community of supporters that make the work of Loaves & Fishes possible. We look forward to nurturing our existing partnerships and fostering new ones in the next year to ensure continued access to good, nutritious food. Once again, our thanks to everyone who has made it possible for us to continue to meet the demand for food and, perhaps most importantly, our sincere thanks for helping us provide hope to our neighbors in need.

Sincerely,

Mary Markham

Mary Markham-Sama President, Board of Directors Patricia A. Stern

Patricia A. Stern Executive Director

## Board of Directors July1, 2015–June 30, 2016

#### PRESIDENT

#### Mary Markham

Term began: 6/2012 Term ends: 2018

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

#### James Hanlon

Term began: 3/2013 Term ends: 2019

### TREASURER

#### **Don Siegrist**

Term began: 3/2014 Term ends: 2017

## SECRETARY

#### James Breslauer

Term began: 11/2015 Term ends: 2018

#### Lily Baddour

Term began: 8/2016 Term ends: 2019

### Mary Jo Boynton

Term began: 8/2016 Term ends: 2019

### Joseph Harrington

Term began: 8/2014 Term ends: 2017

#### Scott Lewis

Term began: 8/2014 Term ends: 2017

#### Aleta Manugian

Term began: 12/2012 Term ends: 2018

#### Andrea Myette

Term began: 10/2015 Term ends: 2018

#### Willie Wickman

Term began: 8/2016 Term ends: 2019

> "There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up." — John Holmes





# 329 Volunteers donated 22,463 hours



Jennifer Ablard Judith Adams Marie Allen Laura Anderson Kate Aragon ARC Dave Astolfi David Audette Rebecca Audette Gail Babcock John Babcock Maureen Babcock Lily Baddour Edi Baker **Rich Baker** Erin Banks Susan Barber Julie Beaumont Kevin Beaumont Bemis Associates Patti Bennett Robert Benson Patti Bent Ed Bergan Karen Bergan Carrie Bergeron Lucinda Boaen Nicholas Boggiano Susan Boggiano Thomas Boggiano **Betsy Bohling Bob Bohling** Eric Boudreau Shane Boudreau **Bailey Bourgeois** Cathy Bowles Denise Boyd

Kevin Boyd Mary Jo Boynton Jim Breslauer Sharon Briggs Michael Broderick Nancee Buckle Wanda Burns Ryan Byrne Kathy Cadigan Cathy Cadogan Stewart Cady James Caires Linda Caires **Richard Carozza** Cathi Carpenter Mona Carpenter-Bowen **Debbie Carroll** Cynthia Carter **Robert Carter** CASE Collaborative John Cauley Ruth Cavanaugh Ibby Chiquoine Barbara Cobuzzi Alyson Codner Kelli Codner Wiliam Codner Vera Spohr Cohen Tracy Coleman Marjorie Costa John Costello Sara Costello Kathy Daly Marla Dawson Maria Day **Bill Dean** 

Janice Desjean Donna Dextraze Scott Dinsmore David Dolan Ann Donald **Robert Dooley Roger Dooley** Katy Dorrien Mimi Dorward Pamela Dunn Eileen McKenna-Guercio Glean Tem **Christopher Ellis** Kathy Ellis Kim Ellis Emma Rasmussen Zachary Engen Alison Engright Jim Farnsworth Lorraine Farnsworth **Rob Farnsworth** James Farrell Lauren Farrell **Brenda Ferguson** Barbara Field Ellen Fitzpatrick Brian Flanagan Geraldine Flynn Sally Foley Anne Marie Fortin Peter Galluzzo Allan Galpin Denis Garcia Gary Gasser **Diane Gavel** Adam Gentile **Kimberly Gentile** 

Martha Dean



**Risa Goldman** Judy Grande Emma Grondolsky Karin Grondolsky **Groton School** Joshua Guzman James Hanlon Joseph Harrington Susanne Harrington Hans Heers Alex Heim Anissa Herrick Joshua Herrick Karen Hierman Nancy Holden Ronald Holm Niki Holtzman Paul Horrigan Yu-Chi Hsu **Richard Hunt** Paul Innamorati Sushama Joglekar Casey Johnson Eric Johnson Maureen Johnson

**Kim Jones** Faith Jordan Ellen Joseph **Rose Joseph** Lynda Kachanis Laurel Karasevich John Katter Barbara Kemp Tam Khuu Tiffany Khuu Susan Kim Audrey Kimball Susan Kokkinos Pat Kovach **Barry Kroening** Jared Kroening Benjamin Krywucki Lisa Krywucki Lee Kucher Nilesh Kulkami **Evangeline Kuzmech** Faith Lagos Barbara Ledeaux Abigail Lee Dee Lee Michael Lemay

# 329 Volunteers donated 22,463 hours



Joey Levesque LEWA Volunteers Scott Lewis Alvin Li Kathryn Liebowitz Steve Liljegren Curt Logee Jane Logee **Bob Lucy** Theresa Lussier Julie Lutz Nicholas Lutz **Dick Lyons** Jane Lyons Nanette MacMillan Marina MacNeil Nissa Maki **Eileen Maloney** Mitchell Mandozzi

Aleta Manugian Marga Marchetti Joshua Marinelli Mary Markham Kate Markowitz Lisa Martel Cindy McAuley Ellen McCabe Gia McCabe Max McCabe Thomas McCabe Brian McClory Delaney McKenna Denise McKenna Karen Mcnamara Allison McNulty Anand Mehta Radhika Mehta Reeta Mehta

Andre Menard Cecile Menard **Merrimack Education** Collaborative Julia Metzger Mike Metzger Cathy Miller **Cathy Mitchell Christy Monahan** Judy Moodie **Chucky Morrison** Lisa Morse Pam Murphy Joanna Myczkowski Andrea Myette Mae Nelson Cathy Nickerson Nick Nickerson Renee North Janna Oakfellow-Pushee Kathleen O'Connor Violetta O'Donnell Joe Ofria Nancy Ohringer **Brigitte Olivier** Karen O'Neil Philip Oslin Joanne Ouellette Page Hilltop Volunteers Joe Pagliarulo Marcie Pagliarulo



Marjorie Payne Rosie Pellizzari Joan Pena **Rober Perry** Karen Peters Judith Petri Mary Pickard Peter Pignatiello David Pillitteri Sandy Piper Stan Podlenski Mike Quinn Peter Quinty Kathleen Raftery Jennifer Rahaim Carita Ramos Laura Rasmussen John Reardon Kathy Reiff Grace Rmillard Kerrie Rich Joseph Robillard Jessica Roetzer **Donna Romilly Robert Romilly** Lynne Roper **Kirstina Rososky** Michaela Rososky Mike Rososky Rachael Rososky **Richard Ross** Jacob Rosson **Deborah Rosson** Jeremy Rosson **Debbie Roufos** Leslie Row



# 329 Volunteers donated 22,463 hours

Chris Ryan Tiffany Sabundayo Susan Sanborn Jack Sartini Matt Schiavone Cory Schnepper Fred Schnepper Ryan Schnepper Leslie Schuster Amy Severin Shriver Job Corps Nancy Siedliski Don Siegrist Heidi Siegrist Henley Siegrist Dan Sierra Barbara Sistare **Richard Skoczylas** Vicki Skoczylas Robert Sniegnoski Kate Sobalvarro Otto Solbrig Julie Staraitis Heather Steed Bob Steele Maddie Steele Donald Stevens Janet Stevens **Betty Stone** Michelle Swearingen Larry Tacito Pratisksha Talwar Jessica Terwilliger **Cindy Thomas** Regina Todd В I I ŀ ( ( F E ſ ľ ſ ŀ ( ¢

Willie Wickman Christine Wilson Jennifer Wilson Julie Wilson Sara Withee Grace Young Carol Zaiatz Peter Zaiatz David Zimmer Kyle Zimmer Rebecca Zolla

"Act as if what you

do makes a

difference. It does."

– William James



HOURS
772
759
587
579
572
466
457
442
417
381

Karen Tsoukalas Karen Tsoukalas Kenneth Underwood Heather Van Pelt Maria Viera Carolyn Waite Charles Waite Edith Waldsmith Emily Wanzer Matthew Warren	"While working, I tried to support the great mission of L&F however, I was not able to give of my time volunteering. In retirement, I so enjoy coming to the pantry and "working" with clients as well as chatting with other volunteers."	"I want to do whatever I can to help change the world."
	"I enjoy the people—clients, volunteers and staff."	"After retiring from a job I worked at for 36 years, I felt that I needed to stay busy and involved. I truly look forward to open pantry sessions, meeting new people, and being part of a mission that serves such a diverse group of deserving people in need of help."

# **Community Impact**

# 196New families visited Loaves &<br/>Fishes in Fiscal Year 2016

"Thank you so much! We have three children and you have helped so much!"

## 811 Families/2,149 individuals visited Loaves & Fishes in Fiscal Year 2016

"I would like to thank all the people at Loaves & Fishes for all their hard work all year long."

# **33,565** Bags of groceries were distributed in Fiscal Year 2016

"I come every two weeks and every time I am greeted with smiles. I leave with comfort of food for the soul and all the people are very helpful with a smile."

# 6,713 Client shopping trips were recorded in Fiscal Year 2016

"Hurrah for Volunteers! The true angels among us."

I want to thank the people and volunteers at Loaves & Fishes for inviting me to help at the Golf Tournament. It was awesome to volunteer and play! Being a single dad, I don't often get the chance to play golf and it was a day to remember for me. —A client



A young client found her new "favorite shoes" in our new Clothing Room! Even the smallest donation makes a huge difference!



I wanted to thank you very much for everything. I was able to make this dinner—kale, arugula, romaine lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber, homemade balsamic dressing, homemade fried rice and Chinese pork-all with ingredients from Loaves & Fishes.

Such an amazing organization and I cannot wait to be able to give back.



"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."

-Mother Teresa

# **News—Training—Accomplishments**

## Loaves & Fishes Has a New Clothing Room!

Due to space reconfiguration within the Pantry, our Clothing Room was moved to a new bright and cheery space. Volunteers, many of them members of our Board of Directors, managed the move, construction and painting of the new space.





## **Training Grant**

This past year, Loaves & Fishes was awarded a grant to provide important training to all volunteers and staff as part of our Volunteer Connections Series.We partnered with Dragonfly Wellness in Devens to provide several sessions of wellness coaching.





We invited Trooper William Cullen of the Massachusetts State Police, and Deputy Fire Chief Timothy Kelly, both from Devens, to present important basic safety and emergency preparedness information to Loaves & Fishes staff and volunteers.

In the last of a series of training sessions funded by a grant award, volunteers participated in teambuilding exercises at Kimball Farm on June 7th. The weather cooperated for a day of learning and camaraderie followed by some much -deserved relaxation and fun! The teambuilding training was led by Linda Trowbridge and Bob Vear of V&T, LLC.



# **Highlights—Supporters—Partners**

## Thanksgiving 2015: The Incredible Spirit of Giving

Last year we issued a plea to the community for turkey donations and what we received was beyond our wildest dreams. Over 800 turkeys were donated!



## The Davis Family

The Davis Family of Littleton arrived the day after Thanksgiving with their annual traditional family donation. This year their generosity added up to 784 pounds of food!



## **Fitness Your Weigh**

Patty Stern, Executive Director, visited Fitness Your Weigh for celebratory hugs and to pick up over \$2,000 which their clients and trainers raised for Loaves & Fishes during their annual Plank-a-thon! Another hugely successful contribution to the fight against hunger. Pictured with Patty is Kerry Madden and Steve Levesque.



## **Rollstone Bank**

Local branches of Rollstone Bank conducted a drive for the benefit of FOUR local charities. Their donation to Loaves & Fishes was \$1,400!



# **Highlights—Supporters—Partners**

## The Neighborhood Food Project

The Neighborhood Food Project is a neighborhood-based food donation effort. Every two months, volunteers go door-todoor, pick up food from their neighbors and deliver it to the Pantry.



The town of Groton piloted a program in 2014 and it's going strong with over 25 neighborhoods!



Thanks to a grant from the Nashoba Valley Healthcare Fund, we have been able to support The Neighborhood Food Project in Groton and plan to expand to other communities in our service area.

## **Community Chiropractic**

Dr. Steve Jarboe of Community Chiropractic delivered 564 pounds of food and \$650 for Loaves & Fishes at the annual Foodraiser event at the Groton Dunstable Performing Arts Center.

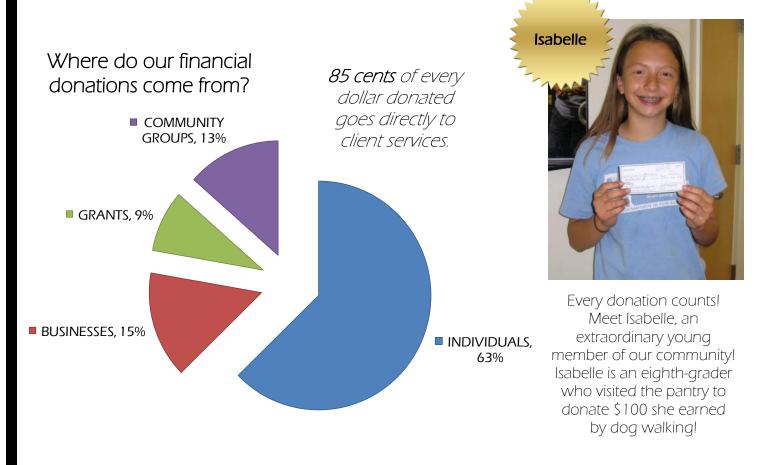


Jed Webber of **Gibbet Hill** presented Patty Stern, Executive Director, with an amazing **\$5,020** donated to Loaves & Fishes from The Cattle Run & BBQ to Fight Hunger event held in June.



# **Financial Profile Fiscal Year 2016**

## Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, Inc. (unaudited)



SUPPORT		EXPENDITURES	
Public Support		Distributed Goods and Services	
Monetary Contributions	\$465,960	Food & Personal Care Items	\$864,915
In-Kind Goods & Services	\$597,481	Program Services	\$595,405
Volunteer Services	\$284,187	Other Goods	\$98,872
Special Events	\$181,098	Other Expenses	
Other Support			
Greater Boston Food Bank	\$262,227	Support Services	\$277,580
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$1,790,953	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,836,772

# **Special Programs—Events**

# "The only gift is apportion of thyself." —Ralph Waldo Emerson



#### Thanksgiving Dinner Distribution

95 volunteers and numerous generous donors made it possible for 376 households to receive all the fixings for their Thanksgiving dinners .



#### Holiday Dinner Distribution

258 households received all the fixings for their holiday dinners, thanks to 83 volunteers and numerous generous donors.



Shop For Your Kids

**199** families shopped at the event and **504** children received holiday gifts.



### Shop For Your Parents

250 children shopped for special gifts for 215 families and had the opportunity to have breakfast with Santa!



## Good Friday Walk

116 participants walked 650 miles to raise \$21,573 for Loaves & Fishes.



#### Postal Worker's Food Drive

11,049 pounds of food were collected, delivered and sorted by many volunteers.





2015 Annual Meeting Outstanding Community Partner for 2015 was awarded to The United States Postal Service area Post Offices *and* Nashoba Valley Medical Center.

## Golf Tournament

Thanks to the organizers, dedicated volunteers, donors, sponsors and golfers, the tournament held at Shaker Hills Country Club raised **\$12,600**!



#### Backpack Program

123 families received
226 backpacks including
14 college-age
backpacks .



Nashoba Valley Medical Center annually sponsors the Hunger Run to benefit Loaves & Fishes. This past October, the Hunger Run raised \$8,000 for the Pantry!



# **Partners in Hope—Get Involved**

# www.loavesfishespantry.org/partners

## VOLUNTEER



There are many opportunities to volunteer with Loaves & Fishes—join us for a Volunteer Information Session!

First Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM Third Thursday of every month at 9:30AM

Learn how you can become involved! For more information, email:

volunteer@loavesfishespantry.org





We are always in need of food. Organize a drive for food and personal care items, or gently used, seasonal clothing for our Clothing Room.

To learn more about holding a drive, email drives@loavesfishespantry.org

Join the Neighborhood Food Project and help us fight hunger "one green bag at a time." For more information, email: foodassist@loavesfishespantry.org

Sponsor a stable item at the pantry such as milk, potatoes, eggs and more. To learn more about sponsorships, email: director@loavesfishespantry.org

# DONATE



Financial Donations: Procuring and distributing 12,000 to 18,000 pounds of food a week requires a significant budget and we rely on financial donations from businesses, civic organizations, grantors and individuals to operate our program. Some ways to donate include direct financial donations, charitable bequests, gifts of listed securities (eligible shares and other securities) and gifts in memoriam. Visit our website at www.loavesfishespantry.org

**Sponsorships:** Financially sponsor one of our annual events or special programs. We are confident we have a sponsorship opportunity to meet your charitable giving goals. For more information, email director@loavesfishespantry.org

1+1=2

Employer Encouraged Charitable Giving/Match: Offer a corporate matching gift program to encourage employee charitable contributions. It's a great way to double the impact in the fight against hunger ...



Fundraising: Become a matching donor during our Annual Appeal, support our Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser or help promote awareness about our annual fundraising events. For more information, email director@loavesfishespantry.org

# **Bronze & Silver Level Harvest Club Partners**



Ann and Richard Perreault Arthur Boisseau Assabet Valley Vocational School District Ayer Fire Department Ayer Post Office Ayer/Shirley Recycle Ayer-Shirley High School Ayer-Shirley Middle School BJ's Wholesale Club Carl and Lorie Phillips **Community Chiropractic** Curtis and Kathleen Marble Dan Sierra David and Joan Murphy David and Karen McClosky Deluxe Corp. Don and Heidi Siegrist Epic Enterprises, Inc. **Evelyn Alanuas** Federal Bureau of Prisons First Church Unitarian Fitness Your Weigh Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School Gary M. Gumuchian Gayle B. O'Brien Gibbet Hill Farm Groton Dunstable Regional School District Groton Post Office Groton Public Library Groton Women's Club Groton-Dunstable Middle School Harvard Sportsmen's Club, Inc. Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church Social Action Committee IC Federal Credit Union James Grier Jim & Lorrain Farnsworth John and Nancy Dwyer John Cauley John Katter Keaney Household/Keaney Family Trust Keith and Vicki Bilafer Keller William Realty North Central/ **Apple Country Team** Knox Real Estate Laddawn LEWA Little Rascals Orchard Littleton Fire Department

Littleton Middle School Littleton Post Office Markham Group Maureen Johnson Medtronic/Surgical Technologies Michael Horton Michael McCallan Michael S. McDonald Michael Tosi Middlesex Savings Bank, Natick Nancy F. Washington, P.C. Netscout Systems, Inc. Oak Meadow Montessori **ODIC**, Incorporated Omer Guillemette **Open Meadow Farm** Otto and Dorothy Solbrig Our Lady of Grace Parish Page Hilltop School Paul and Lisa Martel Peter Carson Philip Rayla and Diane Herlihy-Rayla Project 351 Project Bread Read Flemina Red Tail Golf Club Renegade Miata Club Rueben Hoar Library Richard and Mary Harrington Robert & joan Dircks Foundation Robert Carter and Cynthia Kaul-Carter Rollstone Bank & Trust, Fitchburg Russell and Linda Shappy Ruth A. Wolfson Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church Scott and Patrizia Stadler Scott Lewis Senate Construction Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church Shirley Post Office St. Mary's Catholic Church St. Matthew's United Methodist Church Stephen Quinn Tag Heating & Cooling, Inc. The Davis Family Thomas and Nancy Penney **Thomas Brando** Thoughtforms Timothy and Joan Keutzer Tiny's Restaurant Trinity Chapel Episcopal Church United Steelworkers of America Local 506 United Way of Tri-County Votze Butler Charitable Fund Warren and Meredith Kundert Wendy Trinque William Conley William H. Gustafson Willie Wickman



Ace Bermuda Insurance Ltd. Applefield Farm Catania-Spagna Corporation Century Carpet & Creative Floors, Inc. **Cisco Systems** Congregational Church, UCC, Harvard **Donald and Janet Stevens** Donelan's Supermarket, Groton Greater Lowell Community Foundation Groton-Dunstable Regional High School Harvard Lions Club Heidrun Ryan Holy Trinity Parish (St. Theresa/St. Francis JK Farnsworth Company Kathleen Cole and Carolyn Hotchkiss Littleton Community Farm Littleton Council of Churches National Grid New England Apple Products Co. Paul Kouyoumjian and Lisa Webb Shriver Job Corps. St. Anthony of Padua Parish Stephen and Mary Keville Stephen Roach and Amy Hilbert Steve Bakke and Julie Staraitis West Acton Baptist Church

We asked some of our partners why they support Loaves & Fishes:

"Providing basic daily needs to the needy is grass roots charity, and that is our 'why.' As a business, I think the great feeling you get knowing you are helping your local community is worth the investment. I feel people talk, and good deeds do get recognized and rewarded. We have been in business for 29 years because of the local community. As long as we are in business, Wilson Brothers HVAC, Inc. will always support local food pantries and other important local programs." -Tom Wilson, Owner

# **Gold Level Harvest Club Partners**



# Contact us:

Telephone: (978) 772-4627 Visit our website at: **www.loavesfishespantry.org** 



Find us on Facebook Follow us on Twitter



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