



November 2019 Volume 27, Issue 2

MISSION

Loaves & Fishes' mission is to provide nutritious food, in an atmosphere of kindness and respect, to individuals in need who reside in Ayer, Devens, Dunstable, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrea Myette, *President*
 Jim Breslauer, *Vice President*
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 Theresa Wilson, *Client Services Coordinator*
 Sherrie Forest, *Volunteer Coordinator*
 John Cauley, *Food Coordinator Assistant*
 Grace Miller, *Client Counselor*

OPEN PANTRY HOURS

Wednesday and Friday
 9:45AM-12:30PM
 (Doors open at 9:30AM)
 First and third Saturdays of the month
 9:00AM-11:00AM
 (Doors open at 8:45AM)
 Second Tuesday of the month
 6:00PM-8:00PM
 (Doors open at 5:45PM)

Loaves & Fishes is closed when the Ayer Shirley Regional School District is closed or delayed due to inclement weather. Call (978) 772-4627 for a recorded message.

FOOD DONATION TIMES

- During all Open Pantry Hours
- Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:00PM-8:00PM

LOCATION

234 Barnum Road, Devens, MA 01434

Mailing address:
 PO Box 1, Ayer, MA 01432

Telephone: 978.772.4627
 Fax: 978.772.7395
 Email: office@loavesfishespantry.org
<https://loavesfishespantry.org>



Photo courtesy of Vicki, a client, who prepared this holiday meal last year with groceries she received at the Pantry.

Take a seat at the table...

For the past 36 years, Loaves & Fishes has been providing nutritious food to our neighbors who are struggling to make ends meet. As an organization, we depend upon the generosity of the community—businesses, civic groups, houses of worship, schools, families and individuals—to provide food, funding and the gift of volunteer time. Every act of kindness and generosity is important! Every can of soup, every dollar and every hour of volunteer time makes a difference.

Nothing is guaranteed in this life—health, wealth, a job—and in an instant it could all be taken away from us. During the upcoming holiday season, take some time to reflect and be thankful for what you have been given. Take some time to think about those less fortunate than you who are struggling and then—**“take a seat at the table”** and join us in supporting our neighbors.

My best to everyone for a wonderful holiday season and a peaceful, healthy and happy new year!

Patty

Executive Director

NEED HELP?

WANT TO HELP?

LOOK INSIDE...

Your support will make a huge difference!



Most Needed Items:

Coffee, Tea, Cocoa / Stuffing Mix
Turkey Gravy / Crackers & Nuts / Canned Yams
Ham Glaze / Cranberry Sauce / Canned Sliced Pineapple
Pickles & Olives / Juice

Financial donations are appreciated and will allow us to purchase turkeys, hams, pies, breads and fresh produce.

TO DONATE TO OUR HOLIDAY APPEAL, PLEASE VISIT:
<https://loavesfishespantry.org/dinner/>
or mail your check in the enclosed envelope

Thank you for taking a seat at the table!

Hope

“Thank you to everyone at Loaves & Fishes for being kind, welcoming and helpful. Not only do I receive physical nourishment, I feel nourished on other levels. I appreciate all of you. Thank you.”

A Harvard client living in disabled housing

TESS, shown here with her Mom Kelly, organized a lemonade & snowcone stand over the summer and collected \$123 for the Pantry!



DO YOU HAVE TIME TO LEND A HAND?

THANKSGIVING DINNER DISTRIBUTION

Monday, November 25th
9:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

HOLIDAY DINNER DISTRIBUTION

Monday, December 16th
9:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Contact Sherrie at (978)772-4627 x317 or email: volunteer@loavesfishespantry.org to learn how you can help.



GROTON NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD PROJECT SETS AN ALL-TIME RECORD!

During the month of October, 39 Groton neighborhoods collected 6,612 pounds of groceries for the Pantry!

Want to join in the fun and help your neighbors? Contact John at foodassist@loavesfishespantry.org to learn more.

DO YOU HAVE TROUBLE MAKING ENDS MEET?

A family of four who visits the Pantry twice each month can receive over \$400 worth of groceries including: fresh produce, meat, cheese, eggs, butter, shelf stable items, personal care items and vouchers for milk at a local grocery store.



Call our Client Services Coordinator at (978) 772-4627x312 with questions or simply visit us during our open pantry hours and bring a proof of residency (a first-class piece of mail showing your name, residential address and a current date) with you. **No income requirements!**



Email: volunteer@loavesfishespantry.org or call (978) 772-4627 x317 to learn how you can help!

New Volunteer Information Sessions:
Thursday, November 21st @ 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 18th at 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, February 5th at 7:00 p.m.

OPEN PANTRY HOURS

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

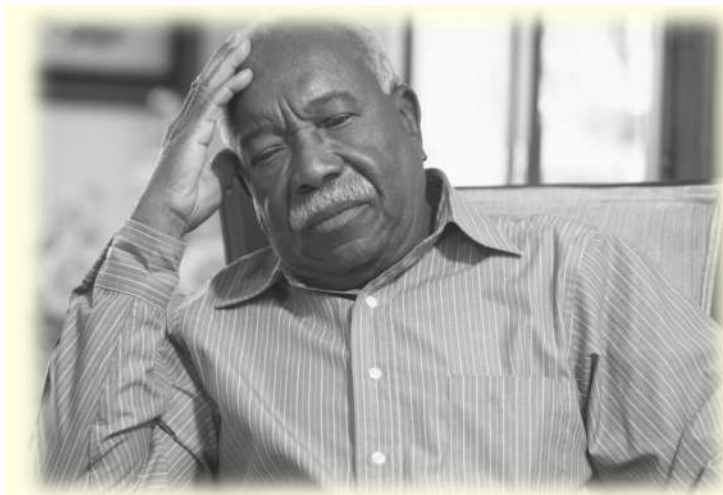
9:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

1st & 3rd SATURDAYS

of each month
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

2nd TUESDAY

of each month
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



“Living on a fixed income is very difficult! I try to keep up on my bills, but I’ve had to make hard choices about heating my home, buying my medications or buying groceries. Loaves & Fishes has helped relieve some of my worries—now I know I’ll have enough to eat.”

Rudy, a client

Our sincere thanks to our **HARVEST CLUB PARTNERS!**

PLATINUM LEVEL PARTNER

\$10,000 and above

Bemis Associates Inc.
 Catania Oils
 Digital Federal Credit Union-
 Marlborough
 Donelan's Supermarket-
 Littleton
 EFSP National Board
 Hannaford Supermarket-
 Lunenburg
 Hannaford Supermarket-
 Townsend
 Market Basket-Littleton
 Brent & Roberta Maugel
 Middlesex Savings Bank
 Charitable Foundation
 Nashoba GFW, Inc.
 Daniel Ploof
 Postal Workers' Food Drive
 Roche Brothers Supermarket-
 Acton
 Shaw's Supermarket-Groton
 Shirley Scout Drive
 Shop 'n Save-Ayer
 The Commonwealth of Mass.
 The Greater Boston Food Bank
 The Groton Neighborhood
 Food Project
 Trader Joe's-Acton
 United Way of North Central
 Massachusetts
 Whole Foods-Westford

GOLD LEVEL PARTNER

\$5,000-\$9,999

Steve Bakke & Julie Staraitis
 Community Harvest Project
 Donelan's Supermarket-
 Pepperell
 Gaining Ground
 Gove Farm
 Harvard Post Office
 Holy Trinity Church-
 St Theresa/St. Francis
 Timothy Ingraham
 Jo Nicewicz Carville 1999 Trust

John & Eunice Charitable Fdn.
 Lewis Studios
 Little Leaf Farm
 Paul Matisse
 North Country Porsche Club
 Of America
 Porsche Club of America
 Northeast Region
 John & Janice Raguin
 Saint Anne Parish
 Donald & Janet Stevens
 The MBIA Foundation
 Wilson Brothers HVAC, Inc.
 Robert Zimmer

SILVER LEVEL PARTNER

\$2,500-\$4,999

Ayer Shirley Regional School
 District
 Boy Scouts of America
 Troops 1 & 13-W. Groton
 Chubb Bermuda Insurance Ltd.
 Kathleen Cole & Carolyn Hotchkiss
 Donelan's Supermarket-Acton
 Epic Enterprises, Inc.
 Jim & Lorraine Farnsworth
 Fidelity Bank-Leominster
 First Parish Church of Groton
 Garden at Church Meadows
 Groton-Dunstable Regional
 School District
 Harvard Lions Club
 Kimball Farm
 Warren & Meredith Kundert
 Ted & Connie Lapres
 Littleton Council of Churches
 Littleton Middle School
 Main Street Bank-Marlborough
 Massachusetts Youth Soccer
 Massachusetts Teachers Assoc.
 Maugel Architects
 Middlesex Savings Bank-Natick
 Nashoba Valley Medical Center
 Stephen Roach & Amy Hilbert
 Robert & Joan Dircks Foundation
 Tom & Verna Sefranek
 Senate Construction Corp.
 Ted & Mary Shasta

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
 Michael Tosi
 Vitamin 1
 Richard & Jean Walsh



Bob, an unemployed, single father who just received custody of his 1 year-old daughter, reluctantly visited the Pantry.

"I was uncomfortable and nervous. I never thought I'd be standing in line waiting for food, but everyone was so nice and welcoming. I left with a full cart of groceries, resources to other helping agencies and a sense of relief that at least I don't have to worry about feeding my daughter while I rebuild my life."

Bob, a client

We made every effort to include all of our Harvest Club Partners. Please accept our apologies and let us know if you have been missed. Some of our Partners wish to remain anonymous and have not been listed here.

Our sincere thanks to our **HARVEST CLUB PARTNERS!**

BRONZE LEVEL PARTNER

\$1,000-\$2,499

14th Masonic District
 A Helping Hand Foundation, Inc.
 Acton Toyota of Littleton
 Ayer Fire Department
 Ayer Post Office
 Ayer Public Works
 Ayer/Shirley Recycling
 Keith & Vicki Bilafer
 BJ's Wholesale Club
 Arthur Boisseau
 Sarah Campbell
 Peter & Diane Carson
 John & Ellen Cauley
 Congregational Church of Littleton
 Sara Costello
 James Curran & Yolanda Rigali
 Ann Davis
 Gerard Delpriore
 Laura Drinkwater
 Eagle Scout Troop #1-Littleton
 ETM Manufacturing
 FMC/Federal Bureau of Prisons
 First Church Unitarian
 Flat Stone Farm
 Read Fleming
 Friends of Marlboro Seniors
 James Grier
 Groton Knights of Columbus #13140
 Groton-Pepperell Rotary Club
 Groton Public Library
 Groton Woman's Club
 Gary M. Gumuchian
 Elson Harmon
 Joseph Harrington
 Harvard Unitarian Universalist
 Church
 Harvard Woman's Club
 Mark Hashem
 Hildreth Elementary School-Harvard
 Michael Horton
 Ronald & Donna Horvath
 J.K. Farnsworth Company
 Maureen Johnson
 Stephen & Diana Keaney
 Maureen Keaty

Keller Williams Realty-Boston NW
 John Keutzer
 Stephen & Mary Keavel
 Paul Kouyoumjian & Lisa Webb
 Laddawn, Inc.
 Lazaro Paving Corporation
 William & Judith LeSage
 Littleton Community Farm
 Main Street Bank-Ayer
 Bruce & Lynne Man
 Dan & Kate Markowitz
 Michael McDonald
 McNulty and Associates, Inc.
 Middlesex Corporation
 Murphy Insurance Company
 New England Apple
 Products Company
 Northern Bank & Trust-Woburn
 Nvidia
 ODIC Inc.
 Omni Properties, LLC
 Kathleen Oosterman
 Page Hilltop School
 Carl & Lori Phillips
 Project Bread
 Philip & Diane Rayla
 Renegade Miata Club
 Rollstone Charitable Foundation
 Leslie H. Row, LICSW
 Sealed Air Corps
 Senator James B. Eldridge
 Russell & Linda Shappy
 Shirley Post Office
 Don & Heidi Siegrist
 Sierra Ventures
 Tonia Socha
 Otto & Dorothy Solbrig
 James & Margaret Soucie
 St. Anthony of Padua Parish
 St. Vincent DePaul/St. Catherine
 Chapter
 The Bromfield School
 The Paper Store
 Union Congregational Church
 United Steelworkers of America
 Local 506
 Nancy Washington
 Willie & Darrell Wickman
 Dawn Wilson



Erica, Tommy's mom, worked two jobs trying to pay the bills and provide for her son but there often wasn't enough left for groceries.

"We often went to bed hungry until we found Loaves & Fishes. They've fed us and given us hope."

Erica - a client

GRATEFUL



"The last year has been very tough on our family, emotionally and financially, and all of you at Loaves & Fishes have eased so much worry in so many ways."

The Rivera Family

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, Inc.
P.O. Box 1
Ayer, MA 01432

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Ayer, MA 01432
Permit No. 4

**DO YOU NEED HELP WITH GROCERIES?
NO INCOME REQUIREMENTS!**

CALL US: 978-772-4627, x312
EMAIL: clientadvocate@loavesfishespantry.org
or visit us during an open pantry session

THE NEED IS REAL...LAST YEAR...



847 households/ **1,956** individuals
received nutritious groceries

29% were children

11% were seniors

28% of the households earned less
than \$10,000 annually

248 new families visited the Pantry

575,618 pounds of groceries
were distributed