

2021 Annual Report

July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021



Loaves & Fishes Annual Report

July 1, 2020 — June 30, 2021

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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.

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Lifting & Feeding our Neighbors Since 1983

Our Leadership Team

The past year has been very difficult as we continued to operate under the veil of the Pandemic. The news was bleak—rising COVID case numbers, masks, vaccines, quarantines. Despite the challenge, our community rallied and continued to support the Pantry with food, financial support and the gift of volunteer time. We are very grateful! Without all of you, we could not continue to provide nutritious food and support to our neighbors.

All of the stories we hear from those who visit the Pantry tug at my heart, but one made me pause...

An elderly gentleman, who lives alone, visited the Pantry. He told us "I only go to the Pantry, nowhere else. Your smiles make me feel welcome, safe and respected." When we asked how he could see our smiles beneath our masks, he replied, "I see it in your eyes."



The work we do here at Loaves & Fishes means so much more than food, it truly does provide hope! My sincere thanks to the Board of Directors for their leadership and support, the Staff Team for their tireless effort, the volunteers for their hearts and the donors for their compassion. Together we made a difference!



Staff Members EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOOD COORDINATOR ASSISTANT Patricia Stern **Sharon Cordero** John Cauley **VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR CLIENT SERVICES COORDINATOR** FOOD COORDINATOR Paige DiPietro Timothy Last Grace Miller **Sherrie Forest** Paul Niemira Theresa Wilson (thru May 2021) (retired Dec. 2020) (thru early June 2021) **CLIENT COUNSELOR** Bill Loehfelm

Our Leadership Team

As I reflect on the past year as Board President, I am proud of all that we accomplished. The Pantry's goal is to provide healthy food to those in need. Every Drive-Thru we host achieves this goal. But how does that happen? It's like a jigsaw puzzle coming together. The Director, the staff and the numerous volunteers coordinate and implement the many pieces to ensure the Pantry functions successfully. These people do so much more than hand out food. For example, we must continuously reach out to our seven communities to help people find us. There is also grant writing and fundraising that must be done to secure funds for our food and expenses. Our website must be kept up-to-date. There is the collection of food and the stocking of shelves. Reports are written and videos are produced to help share our story.

Please join me in acknowledging all these people who make it happen every week, every month, year after year, but especially in these years of the Pandemic. The Director, staff and all the volunteers pull together and with creative thinking, flexibility and careful planning, the Pantry continues to serve our community. When you combine this with the generous donations from all over the area, we show that we are a community that works hard and gives back, we take care of each other.



Andrea Myette President, Board of Directors

	Board Members	
PRESIDENT Andrea Myette 2015-2022	VICE PRESIDENT Hilary Curtis 2018-2024	TREASURER Don Siegrist 2014-2021
Mary Timmons 2020-2023	CLERK Jim Breslauer 2015-2022	Jeff Howe 2019-2022
Sara Stancombe 2019-2021	Susan Edgett 2020-2023	Willie Wickman 2016-2022
Paul Musgrove 2021-2024		Hugh Silk 2021-2024

Impact

653 households /1,627 individuals received nutritious groceries



18% were seniors

69% of the households earned less than \$25,000 annually



166 new families visited the Pantry

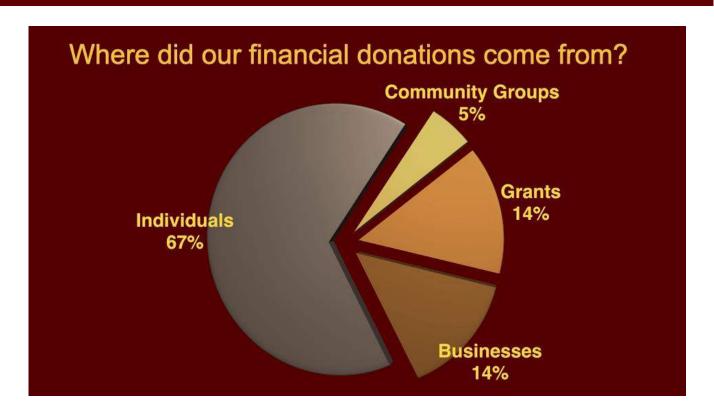
506,556 pounds of groceries were distributed





24% were children

Finances & Fundraising



85 CENTS of every dollar donated went towards client services!



DONATIONS		EXPENDITURES	
Public Support		Distributed Goods and Services	_
Monetary Contributions	\$1,230,095	Food & Personal Care Items	\$969,780
In-Kind Goods & Services	\$897,911	Program Services	\$393,414
		Other Expenses	
		Support Services	\$247,858
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$2,128,006	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,611,052

Finances & Fundraising

"We were doing okay until the Pandemic hit."



"We were doing okay until the Pandemic hit. Ken's hours were reduced, our son, Collin, was diagnosed with health issues and I had to resign from my job to care for him. We've struggled to pay the medical bills, mortgage and utilities.

We learned about Loaves & Fishes from a friend, and what a relief—kind, compassionate staff and volunteers, nutritious

food and a safe, no-touch Drive-Thru! We are so grateful for the support we have received and especially thankful that we have the Pantry to help us put food on our table."

-Tanya, a Groton resident

Thanks to our generous community, we raised over \$30,000 during our Annual Appeal!

FIRST ANNUAL SPRING INTO ACTION VIRTUAL 5K—A HUGE SUCCESS!

29 teams laced-up their sneakers and participated in our First Annual Spring Into Action Virtual 5k and raised over \$16,000. Sister Patricia, pictured here, led the way collecting over \$4,300!





Harvest Club Partners

PLATINUM LEVEL PARTNER \$10,000 and above

Bridget Collins & William Pudans Community Harvest Project James Curran & Yolanda Rigali Data and Business Solutions, LLC Digital Federal Credit Union-Marlborough Donelan's Supermarket-Littleton **EFSP National Board** Michael & Donna Hall Hannaford Supermarket-Townsend Hans & Marianne Heer John & Eunice Charitable Fdn. Middlesex Savings Bank Charitable Foundation-Westborough Nvidia

Roche Bros. Supermarket–Acton Schwab Charitable Fund Ted & Mary Shasta Shaw's Supermarket-Groton Shirley Scout Drive Shop 'n Save-Ayer Albert Stone The Greater Boston Food Bank The Groton Neighborhood Food Project Trader Joe's-Acton

GOLD LEVEL PARTNER \$5,000-\$9,999

Whole Foods-Westford

Alltown Fresh-Ayer Steve Bakke & Julie Staraitis Catania Oils Clear Path for Veterans of New England **Devens Enterprise Commission** Gaining Ground Glenmede Trust on behalf of **Fullwood Foundation Greater Lowell Community** Foundation Scott & Betsy Howard Timothy Ingraham Jo Nicewicz Carville 1999 Trust Kobe Henro Pet Food Bank Timothy & Joan Keutzer **Lewis Studios** Little Leaf Farms

Paul & Mimi Matisse Nashoba GFW, Inc. **New England Apple Products** Company Porsche Club of America-Northeast Region John & Janis Raquin Stephen Roach & Amy Hilbert Robert & Joan Dircks Foundation Tom & Verna Sefranek Richard Shurtleff Donald & Janet Stevens Tahattawan Lodge-Littleton The Bromfield School-Harvard The Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston United Way of North Central Massachusetts-Fitchburg Richard & Jean Walsh

SIL VER LEVEL PARTNER \$2,500-\$4,999

Abbott Laboratories Fund

Communications, Inc.

American Alarm and

Bemis Associates Inc. Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation Bursaw Gas & Oil Chelmsford Church of Christ Chubb Bermuda Insurance Ltd. Cisco Systems-Boxborough Kathleen Cole & Carolyn Hotchkiss Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts-Fitchburg Deep Analysis-Groton Dunkin' Donuts-Hingham Jim & Lorraine Farnsworth Fidelity Bank-Leominster Garden at Church Meadows Groton-Pepperell Rotary Club Vivek Gupta Harvard Lions Club Michael & Stephanie Hausladen IC Federal Credit Union-Fitchburg Vinod Kamalaraj Anne Kelly Warren & Maredith Kundert Ted & Connie Lapres Bruce & Ellen Leicher Littleton Community Farm Littleton Community Television Littleton High School **Brent & Roberta Maugel**

David & Joan Murphy North Country Porsche Club of America Olympus Corporation of the **Americas** Robert O'Neill & Mary Ystueta Philip & Diane Rayla Raytheon Technologies Regalis Solutions LLC Andrew Sigel James & Margaret Soucie St. Mark's Episcopal Church-Westford Clark Swain The Henry Vincent Couper Charitable Foundation Robert Tosi & Jo-Ann Dery Town of Groton Virginia Wood



"It hasn't been easy for us in the past year. Both of us have had a number of medical issues and we're struggling financially. The bills just keep piling up and we have very little money left over to purchase food. Our church told us about Loaves & Fishes so we decided to visit. The Drive-Thru service was so easy and safe and we received so much nutritious food! Thank you for helping us put food on our table. We appreciate all that you do for us and for so many of our neighbors."

-Juan & Chen, Ayer residents

Harvest Club Partners

BRONZE LEVEL PARTNER \$1,000-\$2,499

25th Marines Regiment-

Fort Devens

Inarid Adam

Paul Alfredson

Christopher Almy

Arbella Insurance Group

Ayer Fire Department

Ayer Shirley Regional Education

Association, Inc.

Bagels Plus-Acton

Albert & Catina Barbieri

Keith & Vicki Bilafer

BJ's Wholesale Club

Camilla Blackman

Robert & Elizabeth Bloemer

Arthur Boisseau

Lawrence & Holly Boisseau

David Braithwaite

Carter & Letitia Branigan

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

Jill Brown

Eugene Buzderewicz

Stephen Byan & Susan Roper

Lindsay Calderwood Michelle Calhoun Carl & Carol Canner Peter & Diane Carson

Century Carpet & Creative Floors, Inc.

John Chapman & Patricia Ruze

Jay Charleston

Tina Chen

Niels & Dorothy Christiansen

Richard & Phyllis Clawson

Congregational Church of Littleton

Louis Conrad & Lois Bisson Timothy & Dianne Cosgrave

Sara Costello Sharon Cousins Nick Craig Heather Curtis

Custom Contracting, Inc.

Carol Daley Thomas Damon

Dave Swain Associates, Inc. Charles & Constance Detwiller

Donovan Services/Dunkin'

Nathan Dowd DRM Group LLC

Guilford Dube & Marcia Melanson

Elaine Dunn-Angus

Gen Edwards

Thomas Edwards

Jennifer Engel

Epic Enterprises, Inc.

Estee Lauder Companies

Bernard Farrell

Nathan & Jennifer Finch

Frederick & Madeleine Findlay

F.J. Catalano Enterprises, Inc.

Read Fleming

Barbara Floss

Christopher Forbes

David Gaynor & Bernice Goldman

Richard & Elinor Gentilman

Gervais Ford

Anthony & Margaret Gibbs

Google, Inc.

Gove Farm

Deborah Gray & Thomas O'Donnell

Paul & Martha Green

Groton Community Dinners

Groton Fire Department

Groton Police Department

Groton Woman's Club

Lucille Guichard

Larry & Bella Guilmartin

Gary Gumuchian

Rebecca Hallock

Harvard Woman's Club

Mark Hashem

Jill Hennessey Richard High & Ann Perkins

Daniel Hogan

Andra Hollis

Oscar & Madeline Holzmann

Michael Horton

Heather Houde

Robert & Anna Hueston

Kristine Hunt

Daniel & Pam Hurley

Jackpine Technologies Corporation

J.K. Farnsworth Company

Victoria Jenny

Sarah Jordan

Stephen & Diana Keaney

Keller Williams-Merrimack Valley

Janet Kennedy

Katherine Kimball

Colleen King

Laddawn, Inc.

Rebecca Lewis

Joseph Liscouski

Littleton Police Department

Douglas & Eileen Long

John & Hannah Lyons Jack MacLellan Main Street Bank-Ayer Bruce & Lynne Man Markham Group, Inc.

Massachusetts Youth Soccer

Association-Lancaster

Mattel Children's Foundation MCA Promo

Gibson & Dani McCullagh

Michael and Helen R. Cyker Charitable Foundation

Chris Morrison

David & Becca Newsham

Jonathan & Amanda Norton

Maureen O'Hagan

Kathleen Oosterman

Ronald & Susan Ostberg

Pepperell Quality Market

Gina Perini

Brian Perwak

Stanley Podlenski

Mark & Sarah Rambacher

Lyle Reed



"I grew up poor and know what it feels like to go hungry. I'm a Veteran working full-time but I still struggle to pay the bills—there's not much left at the end of the month. I don't qualify for fuel assistance or food stamps. I'm so thankful for the food I receive from the Pantry. I'm glad to know there's a place like this for me and for many others to help us during our time of need, thank you!"

Randy, A Veteran from Ayer

Harvest Club Partners

BRONZE LEVEL PARTNER \$1,000-\$2,499

Jason & Amy Remillard Richard & Cynthia Ressijac Restoration Orchard LLC David & Karen Riggert Darcy Robinson Steven & Claire Robinson Theodore Ross Leslie H. Row, LICSW Edward & Ann Marie Rubin Stephen Ruscak Christopher Ryan & Lilly Baddour Adam Rypinski St. Andrew's Episcopal Church-Ayer Samfield Committee Meredith Scarlet Robert & Joyce Scherer-Hoock Lisa Schopf-Conlon Dana Scribner Steven Schwartzberg

Lew Sheen Keith & Julie Seitter Russell & Linda Shappy Don & Heidi Siegrist Thomas & Heidi Sikina Sisters of St. Joseph, LCWR Region 1 Miriam Smith & Michael Acton Paul & Cynthia Smith Otto & Dorothy Solbrig Robert & Carolyn Stall State Street Foundation, Inc. Richard & Elsa Stroh Timothy Szczesuil & Ann Broomhead Sidney Sundheimer Margaret Tessler The Acton Food Pantry The Gore Charitable Foundation The Lexvest Group **Edward & Penny Thomas** Mary Timm Town of Littleton Union Congregational Church-Groton

Elizabeth Walker John & Cathy Walker John Wang Debra Ward Molly Waring Nancy Washington Washington Lodge AF and AM Leon & Ann Weaver Sara Weeks Connie White Douglas & Beth Williams Thomas & Kathy Williams Dawn Wilson Wilson Brothers HVAC, Inc. Cornelis & Jayne Wortel Robert Zimmer

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.



To all 2,643 businesses, organizations and individuals who supported the Pantry during the past year, our sincere thanks! Without your support, Loaves & Fishes could not continue to help our neighbors who are struggling.



"We have never needed a food pantry—we've always been donors—but the Pandemic has really hit us hard. Eric's hours have been reduced significantly and I was laid off. We're ashamed to say that there is little left for food after all of the bills are paid. We didn't want to come to the Pantry, but we had to think about our children—they have to eat. We are truly thankful for not only the food, but also the kindness and support we have received. Our sincere thanks to everyone who supports the Pantry, it has definitely made a difference for us."

-Sara & Eric, Harvard homeowners



From Our Clients



We enhanced our Drive-Thru operation with a communication box.

Our clients LOVE it!!!



* Appreciation *



The holidays were a bit brighter for 297 families at Thanksgiving and 325 families in December! They received all of the fixings for their holiday meals! Photo courtesy of a grateful client.

Words from a client...

"Thanks to all of you who help in some way at the Pantry. I really appreciate all of you and I know you work hard to make the Drive-Thru possible for me and many others who just do not have enough money to get by. I am so thankful for all the food, especially the fresh vegetables and fruits and bakery goods!"

-Barbara, a client

It Takes A Community

Some donated food ...



Over 9,400 pounds of food were collected by the **TOWN OF SHIRLEY** residents who participated in the annual Scout Drive!

Ayer Community Garden
Community Harvest Project
CSA Farmers Market
Dick's Market Garden
Fat Moon Farm
Flat Stone Farm
Gaining Ground
Garden at Church Meadows
Good Pickin' Farm
Gove Farm
Johnson Matthey Pharma Services
Kimball Farm





The HARVARD FIRE DEPARTMENT contributed turkeys for our Thanksgiving Dinner Distribution!

...many donated fresh produce... 107,548 pounds!



Little Leaf Farms
Littleton Community Garden
New England Apple Products Company
Restoration Orchard, LLC
St. Joseph's Farm
and many home gardens and
grocery stores

It Takes A Community

Some contributed financially...





...others helped in unique ways.



SCOTT FROM LEWIS STUDIOS supported us in many ways...marketing advice, website development, video production and technology support!



EMPLOYEES OF THE DELUXE CORPORATION did a fantastic job tidying up our gardens!





These two companies provided a box truck and driver so that we could retrieve our orders from The Greater Boston Food Bank each month!



It Takes a Community

The Groton Neighborhood Food Project continued to set records!



A new record was set in February—over 7,300 pounds of food collected!

A total of 39,396 pounds were donated during the year!







The Neighborhood Food Project was a force as well!

(Ayer, Devens, Harvard, Littleton & Shirley)

21,327 pounds of food were collected this past year!







The children...



BRIANNA, with an assist from big brother RYAN, made bracelets and necklaces, sold them and donated the profits to the Pantry!







CHARLY, left, baked-up some deliciousness and RUSSELL, right, made soap.

They both sold their creations over the past year

and donated all proceeds to the Pantry!

played an important role!

THE POWER OF \$1.

One day, **WESLEY**, a 6 1/2-year-old, and his mom were talking about helping people in our community. When she mentioned to him that some people don't have enough food to eat and that she donates money to the Pantry, Wesley dashed up to his room, pulled a dollar bill from his bank and with his mom's help they mailed it in a beautifully decorated card to Loaves & Fishes.





ELOISE made birthday packages filled with cake mix, frosting, candles and other goodies! She wanted to make sure that everyone could celebrate their special day!

ELLIE below, works at BAGELS PLUS IN ACTON. When she realized that many bagels were getting thrown out each day, she had an idea. She asked the owners if they would be willing to donate them to Loaves & Fishes. They agreed! She rallied her friends and together they packaged the bagels and delivered them to the Pantry on a regular basis!



280 volunteers donated over 9,500 hours

volonteer do good, feel good



Suzanne Allen Christina Andersen Rosemary Anderson Matthew Arner Dave Astolfi Matthew Atwell Grace Audette Diane Baker Sima Baran **Doris Barreiro** Charline Barron Dave Beigel Heidi Beigel Sheryl Belley Patti Bennett Robert Benson David Berwind Peter Bialek Diane Bishop Cathleen Blair Shannon Boeckelman Dan Daly Diane Bolivar Jaclyn Bolivar Chris Bottger Valarie Boucher Cathy Bowles Denise Boyd Kevin Boyd Tina Boyer John Boynton Jim Breslauer Victoria Brier Michael Broderick Susan Buck Jan Burns Wanda Burns

Kathy Cadigan

Stewart Cady Sarah Cameron Stephen Cantino Mary Ellen Cappucci Melinda Carlson Ruth Cavanagh Colleen Chambers Nancy Chapman Alison Chase Cathy Collins Aldea Choquette Maureen Clapp Jordan Colon Susan Connors Marcia Cook Renee Cook Michael Cordero **Hilary Curtis** Sr. Patricia Cushing Tracy Cutter Lori Daniells Laura Dauphinais **Heather Davis** Amy Delaney Jennifer Delaney Derek Delorenzo Lynn Delorenzo Lorraine DiNardo Paige DiPietro Kirby Dolak David Dolan Diane Douglas Korry Dow Darlene Dube Patti Duffy

Marie Dumas

Paula Ehwa Alison Enright Kasey Ensslin Ann Essman William Estes Rob Farnsworth Mina Femino Beverly Finnivan Sally Fischer Ellen Fitzpatrick Abby Flaherty Meghan Flaherty Wendy Flaherty Maggie Flannagan Roselle Flannagan Sally Foley Maribeth Ford Sherrie Forest Peter Galluzzo Denis Garcia Patricia Garrigan James Geller Joanna Gerwig Greg Giannone Sarah Gibbons Daniel Glennie Jamie Glennie George Gogas Pam Gordon Manon Goulding **Dorothy Greco** James Hanlon Susan Harvey David Haschiq Hans Heer

Joanne Helhowski

Susan Edgett

Crystal Herrmann Nancy Holden Niki Holtzman Ellie Hood Andrew Hopper Maureen Hopper David Horne Jeff Howe Yu-Chi Hsu **Katie Hughes** Cosman loan Patricia Jackson Deborah Johnson Glynn Johnson Greg Johnson Laurie Johnson **David Jones** Rose Joseph Robin Kane Celeste Keep Marie Keep Barbara Kemp Janice Kendall Jasmin Keramaty

Charles King Jenn Klein Barry Kroening Julie Kulchuk Belle Kuo Claire Last Lisa last Timothy Last John Lawlor Huguette Leahey Stefanie Lempp **Beth Lewis** Scott Lewis Ji-Ang Liu Bill Loehfelm Jane Logee Peg Lorenz Nicky Lowney Mary Allen Lyons Richard Lyons Aleta Manugian Jennifer Mayo David McClosky Martha McCown



280 volunteers donated over 9,500 hours



Judy McDermott Thomas McKenna Andre Menard Cecile Menard Sondra Michaud Pascal Miller Elizabeth Miskin Samuel Morrow Victoria Morrow John Munroe John Murphy Paul Musgrove Andrea Myette David Neville Leslie Neville Kevin Niemira Paul Niemira Mike Noeth Paula Noeth Renee North Cynthia Ober-Ressijac James O'Connell Kathleen O'Connor Violetta O'Donnell Nancy Ohringer Joanne Ouellette Jenny Outman **Charly Painter** Jessie Panek Jason Pare Karla Paxton Patricia Pignata Jennifer Pinney Janet Providakes Kathleen Raftery Linda Rausch Madison Rausch Judy Reid Richard Ressijac Barry Rich

Catherine Richard

Matthew Richards Theresa Richards Karen Riggert Jody Robinson Jessica Roetzer **Donna Romilly** Lynne Roper Leslie Row Chris Ryan Amy Ryzi Laurie Sabol Colinda Samarjian Jeff Samarjian Kailey Samarjian Dot Samsi Nancy Sarlan **Paul Scheipers** Joseph Schmidt Fred Schnepper Mellisa Schrock Eric Sechman John Sewell Robin Sewell **Charlene Shorey** Don Siegrist Hugh Silk Mini Singh-Arner Richard Skoczylas **Grace Slocumb** Sarah Smith Gail Somers Sun Vera Spohr Andrew Stahovec Lisa Stahovec Sara Stancombe Cory Stasko Lauren Steele Marisa Steele Nancy Steele Christine Stelzer Laura Stern Steven Stern **Donald Stevens** Janet Stevens Raina Sturtz Debra Tassone Kathleen Taylor The Glean Team Peter Thompson Rachael Thompson **Mary Timmons** Sandra Tobies Carol Lee Tonge **Sharon Tully**

Laura Vianello

Maria Viera Carolyn Waite **Charles Waite** Sarah Walker **Cheryl Walters** Elizabeth Wand George Watkins Aaron Weitekamp Julie Weitekamp Juliet Whitehill Ann Whitney Willie Wickman Janet Wilkinson Brian Wong Annette Woodle Ann Wortman Anlu Yan Joy Yates Kyla Yates Hongfei Zhang Erin Zhang Rebecca Zolla







100+ HOURS

Aldea Choquette	479.75
Andre Menard	319.25
Lynne Roper	282.25
Rosemary Anderson	212.00
Renee Cook	209.25
Fred Schnepper	208.75
Yu-Chi Hsu	193.25
Peter Galluzzo	191.75
Janet Stevens	181.00
James Geller	173.50
Kathleen Raftery	171.00
Mike Noeth	170.25
Lorraine DiNardo	151.25
Kevin Boyd	144.50
Kevin Niemira	144.50
Charlene Shorey	136.25
Jeff Howe	134.00
Judy McDermott	133.25
Denise Boyd	131.00
Jim Breslauer	129.25
Wanda Burns	125.75
Jessica Roetzer	116.75
Charline Barron	115.00
James Hanlon	114.25
Jane Logee	112.00
Paula Noeth	102.50
John Sewell	100.25















Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers and donors who provide hope to so many in our community!

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1, Ayer, MA 01432 Located at: 234 Barnum Road, Devens, MA 01434 978-772-4627 // office@loavesfishespantry.org https://loavesfishespantry.org

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