



# The Volunteer Link

A Monthly Newsletter

April 2016

## We are very fortunate to have a state Senator like Jamie Eldridge who supports food security for everyone



For the past 14 years, eight of them as a State Senator, Senator Eldridge has sponsored a community dinner

at either the Maynard or Acton sites. This year he was in Sudbury at the Open Table Dinner on March 29 where he provided a dinner of chicken parmesan with the fixings. While the guests were enjoying the dinner, he took the opportunity to talk to them personally about issues that concern them and their families.

In addition to providing a meal every year, Senator Eldridge is representing our needs at the state level during budget considerations. He has regularly supported increases in the Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP). It is those funds that allow us to obtain \$7.50 worth of food for every \$ we spend at the Greater Boston Food Bank. Thank you Senator Eldridge.

## 15th Annual Post Office Food Drive

The annual USPS food drive will be held this year on Saturday, May 14th. We hope you will help us publicize this with your friends and neighbors.



Residents are asked to leave non-perishable donations near their mailbox for collection by the mail carriers. We also hope you'll remind your friends and neighbors that we can only use food items that are within their sell by date.

## Thank you to our Volunteer Crew from Minute Man Arc



We are very fortunate to have a dedicated crew of volunteers from Minute Man Arc who support both the Maynard and Concord Open Table sites. On Thursday mornings they come to Maynard and clean the pantry, leaving it ready for our pantry set up crew. They then



go to Concord where they put a big blue tarp over the rug in the parlor and then set up tables and chairs. Susan Evans, Concord pantry 2 chair, looks forward to their cheery greetings, smiles and high fives. They pride themselves on getting the job done in a timely fashion and enjoy the praise they receive. Once they are finished, they head off for a well earned break and picnic lunch at the local park.



We've said this before we it's worth repeating. We post to the Open Table Facebook page every week with details

about both sites. Please like us to stay current with what is happening. If you want to be sure of seeing all our posts, you can click on the LIKED button and select Get Notifications. AND you can help us extend our outreach by liking, commenting or sharing an item on your own facebook page. Facebook looks at the popularity of items to decide how many people will actually see them.



Consider giving back to Minute Man Arc by walking or donating to their annual Minute Man Arc March, Saturday, May 7th, at Emerson Field in Concord. To register, donate or for information about the event, click [HERE](#).

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