



# The Volunteer Link

A Monthly Newsletter

November 2016



## Volunteers and Our Annual Appeal

**Who needs Open Table?** Each year 620 families come to Open Table. They are people like you and me, who live where we live and shop for groceries where we shop for groceries. But their need is often "hidden" in the suburbs. They are people who may:

- have lost their job, their health insurance, or their housing
- have lost their spouse or partner
- suffer from mental and/or physical impairments
- earn too much to qualify for government assistance but not enough to completely make ends meet

Because this is such an important year for Open Table we are hoping that our volunteers who give us so much of their time will also be able to support the Annual Appeal. Donate by check to *P.O. Box 42, Concord MA 01742* or online at [www.opentable.org](http://www.opentable.org)



## Generous Grant from the Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation

Open Table is excited to announce that we have received a \$19,000 grant awarded by the Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation for the

2017 fiscal year. The support will allow us to purchase kitchen equipment for our new Maynard location. With this equipment, including our own refrigeration, we can better fulfill our commitment to providing fresh, healthy food to those in need. We are grateful to the Middlesex Charitable Foundation for supporting Open Table and the communities we serve!

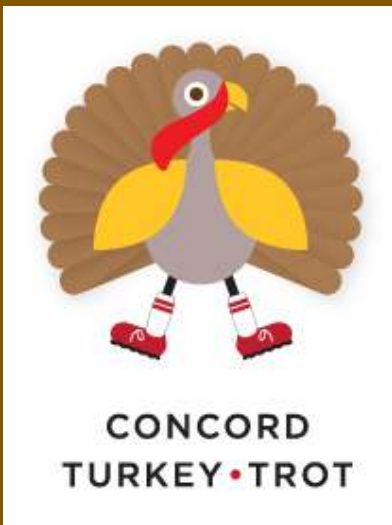


## Riders & Drivers Needed

Open Table is in urgent need of riders (and drivers) for Monday food pickups.

The main food source for Open Table is the Greater Boston Food Bank. Every Monday three volunteers drive a U-Haul truck from Acton to South Boston to pick up 3,000-5000 pounds of food. After driving the truck back to Open Table's food pantries in Concord and Maynard, where another team from NuPath helps to unload the food, the volunteers return the truck to the Acton U-Haul. Open Table is looking for people who can

commit to one Monday morning a month. Teams typically leave Acton at 9 a.m. and are finished by 1:30 p.m. Whether you can put a team together or want to join one, please contact Fran Warner at [buddyw61@yahoo.com](mailto:buddyw61@yahoo.com) or 781-354-5002



## Thanksgiving Turkey Trot

The 7th Annual Concord Trot (Run or Walk) will be held on Thanksgiving morning starting at Keyes Road in Concord Center. The Race-day Registration opens at 7:30 AM. Price to participate is \$30 and you can register on-line [HERE](#).

Participants are urged to help those less fortunate by bringing a food item to donate to the Open Table Food Pantry. Most needed are hearty soups and boxes of cereal in particular.

Can't run? You can still make a donation. If you would like to volunteer for the event. Please contact [info@opentable.org](mailto:info@opentable.org) We need volunteers to help register runners from 7:00-8:30 AM Thanksgiving Day and to pass out hats and coffee.



## Shopping This Holiday on Amazon?

Did you know that just by entering the website through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) a portion of your purchase can help Open Table? No Cost to you - help for all the people who depend on us. The first time you use this you'll be asked to specify the charity you wish to benefit - after that it's totally transparent.



## Thanksgiving Dinner

Once again Open table will be holding a Thanksgiving Dinner (the 27th annual) at 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day at the First Parish Church on Lexington Road in Concord. And once again we

want to thank the volunteers and donors who make it possible for us to offer this delicious celebration to our guests. Guests should RSVP for the Open Table Thanksgiving Dinner: [events@opentable.org](mailto:events@opentable.org)

**GREAT NEWS - THE DINNERS AT THE SUDBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WILL RESUME IN JANUARY 2017.**



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