

News from around the table

# Supporting Seniors program gets a boost

Thanks to a generous Community
Benefit Award from Emerson Hospital,
we're expanding our Supporting Seniors
program, developed to meet the needs



of the senior population. Currently, we partner with <u>Acton's Council on Aging</u> to provide prepared meals to seniors in need. Now we can go the next logical step by delivering groceries using our refrigerated truck. And if this pilot program goes well, we can look into expanding it into more communities.

We are one of 18 non-profit organizations awarded up to \$5,000 by Emerson Hospital, after a comprehensive application and review process. Their goal is for these organizations to expand their programs that serve the physical and

mental health needs of the community. We were chosen for our program benefitting older adults.

We're excited to be able to expand this much-needed program, and thankful to Emerson Hospital for supporting us in our vision to do so.



# New Year, new opportunities

There is no way we could do all that we do without our hundreds of dedicated volunteers. But as we've grown and changed, our volunteer needs have changed too. Now the Massachusetts Service Alliance has invited us into a program that will train us how to better recruit and train volunteers.

A big part of this initiative is figuring out how to get "skilled volunteers": people who bring the skills they've honed in their work life and applying those skills to our needs. For example, someone with project management experience might become a shift leader for us. Or a marketing professional would join our communications team.

We're excited to be part of this program and look forward to learning more and better ways to find and place volunteers.

### **Honoring Dr. King**

On Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, we hosted a special event at our site in collaboration with the Maynard Anti-Racism Alliance, Neighbor Brigade, and Maynard High School art students. Kids of all ages joined us to learn about Dr. King and other civil rights leaders through games, books and creative activities. People could also check out the amazing MLK art done by MHS students and make their own rally sign for the march to Memorial Park.



Also paying homage to Dr. King's call to community service, students at Concord Academy spent part of Monday making lasagna and pumpkin bread to be used as prepared meals in our pantry. We thank them for honoring Open Table with their service project!

#### We Need You!

We are an organization run primarily by volunteers. Are you a retiree, high schooler, a professional looking to reenter the workforce but need something on your resume, or a group of friends looking to give back together? Whoever you are, you can make a HUGE difference to people in need by volunteering in our pantry. We have a critical need for volunteers during our pantry distribution times: Tuesdays at 2:30 and 4:30 and Thursdays at 4:30. To learn more or to volunteer, please email us at <a href="mailto:volunteer@opentable.org">volunteer@opentable.org</a>.

### **Position open**

We're looking for an organized and reliable individual to work at our Community Donation drop-off center on Everett Street on Saturday mornings.
This paid position, ideal for a high school student, entails greeting people and



collecting information, taking donations of food and other items, and stocking shelves with the collected donations. If you're interested, send an email to <a href="mailto:rslattery@opentable.org">rslattery@opentable.org</a>, with "Community Donation center position" in the subject line and include the best way to reach you.











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