

**Good News Edition** 

News from around the table

# We want to thank each and every one of you for your amazing support during the

challenging month of March. People are reaching out, unsolicited, and asking how they can help. With your generous donations of time and money, we've been able to keep providing groceries to our many regular clients as well as the dozens of new families adversely affected by the current pandemic. You are the backbone of all we do. So here, then, are some of the positive stories of the past few weeks.

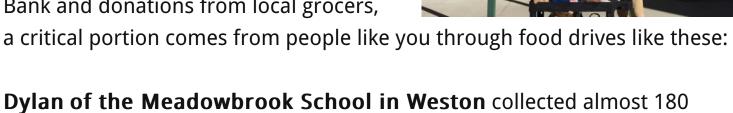
### Did you know that we distribute an average of 10,000 pounds of food per

kids' bags.

**Food glorious food!** 

week? And while much of this food comes from the Greater Boston Food Bank and donations from local grocers,

pounds of food during a food drive in March.



donated food as part of their Pop Up Drop Off Food Drive. Girl Scout Troop 62882 from Sudbury assembled and decorated over 200

The Dover Street Neighbors Association collected over 100 pounds of

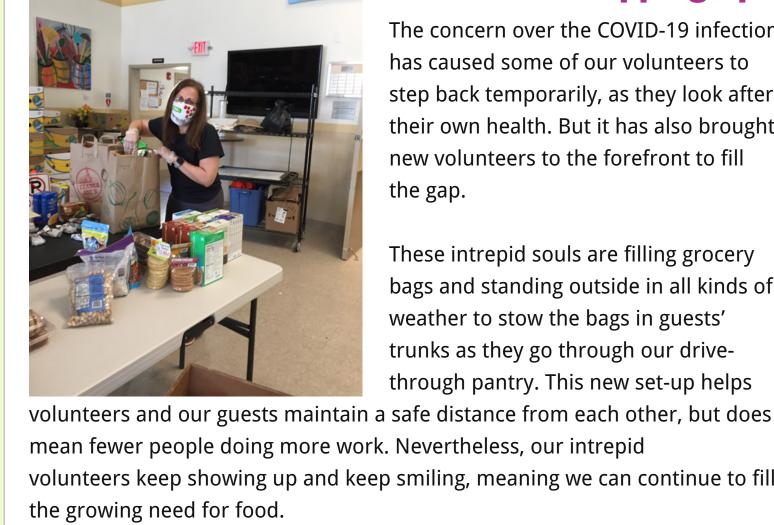
grocery gift cards, and funds. And during two food drop-off days at our Community Donation Center in

Fit Body Boot Camp in Acton members collected 243 pounds of groceries,

donations. **Concord Recreation** came by and gave us all their kids' snacks. Thanks to these generous people, our clients have enough food in their grocery bags so far this month!

March, we collected over 2000 pounds of food and \$800 in monetary

**Volunteers stepping up** 



#### step back temporarily, as they look after their own health. But it has also brought new volunteers to the forefront to fill

The concern over the COVID-19 infection

has caused some of our volunteers to

the gap. These intrepid souls are filling grocery bags and standing outside in all kinds of weather to stow the bags in guests' trunks as they go through our drivethrough pantry. This new set-up helps

volunteers keep showing up and keep smiling, meaning we can continue to fill

#### pantry distribution from a choose-yourown to pre-packed bags. These include a

environment.

A new normal

For those who don't know, we have

suspended our Community Dinners for

the foreseeable future and changed our

bag of dry goods, a bag of dairy, one bag of proteins and one with fresh produce. There's also an option to take a ready-toeat meal. Instead of coming into the building, guests drive into the Maynard Municipal Parking lot where volunteers stand ready to place the bags of groceries directly in the trunks of their cars. This minimizes contact between volunteers

THEM. This month we're starting a new

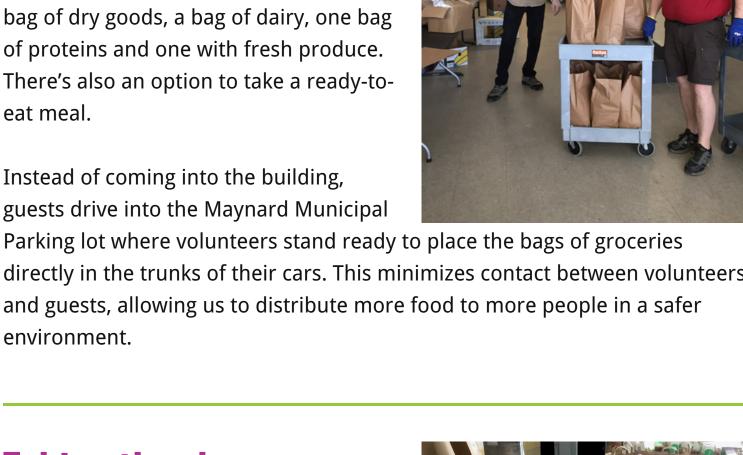
complexes for seniors operated by the

who are elderly, disabled, unable to

partnership with the <u>Hudson Health</u>

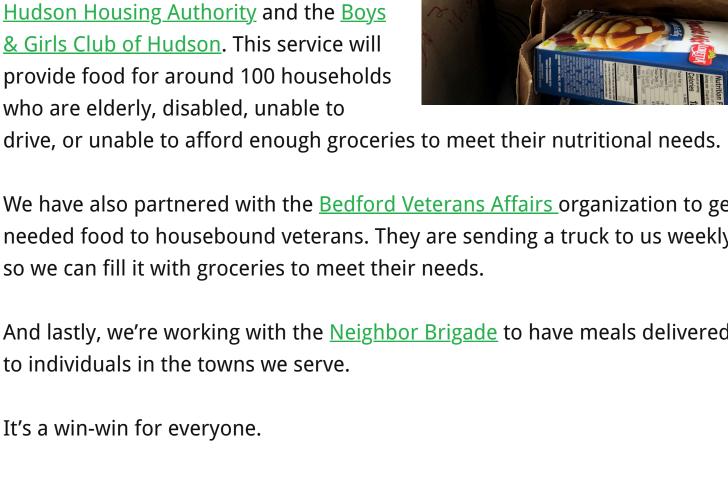
**Department**, bringing mobile food

pantry service to two residential



Taking the show on the road Not everyone can get to us. Thankfully, we're working out ways to get food to

We have also partnered with the **Bedford Veterans Affairs** organization to get needed food to housebound veterans. They are sending a truck to us weekly so we can fill it with groceries to meet their needs. And lastly, we're working with the Neighbor Brigade to have meals delivered to individuals in the towns we serve. It's a win-win for everyone.



## **EGGStraordinary times** Did you know it takes millions of eggs to develop a vaccine? Neither did we. The race for a COVID-19 vaccine, not to mention the baking happening now that people are home all day, is causing a scarcity of the oval protein packages. The result is fewer cartons available to food pantries.

click here to make a donation. And thank you!

When we don't get eggs at no cost we have to purchase them; they're a simple and adaptable source of protein and a staple for most people. And because you can't get new chickens as quickly as, say, new heads of lettuce, replacing those eggs can run as much as \$500 A WEEK. You heard that right. That's why we're doing a fundraiser in April – the month of Easter and Passover – to make sure we can continue to provide eggs, as well as any other items impacted by the current crisis, to our guests. Any amount helps; just

A message of thanks And now, a note of thanks, proof that all you are doing for Open Table is making a difference:

I just want to thank everyone at Open Table for being so creative and

express my appreciation for how you are supporting others!

diligent in serving the needs of the community during the challenges of

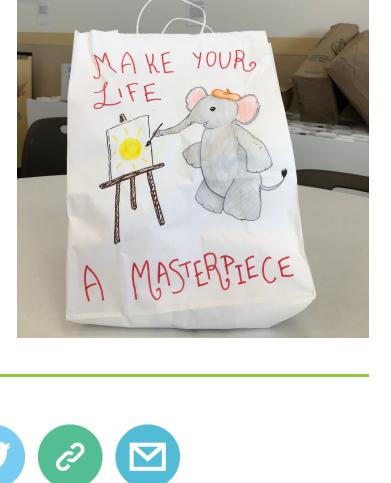
COVID19. Thanks to you and your team for all that you do! Words cannot

**Donate Now** 

Social Worker for the Town of Sudbury



Bethany





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