

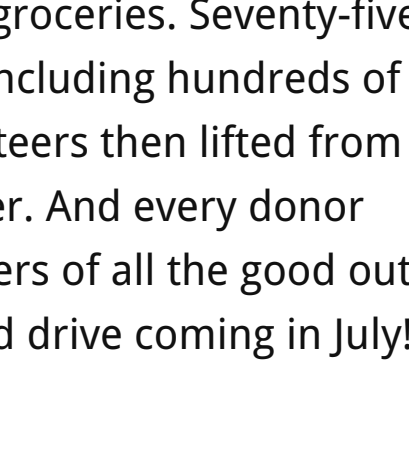


News from around the table



Three hours of awesome activity in the parking lot and pantry in just two minutes

Drive-Thru Drop Off Yields Big Results



On Friday, June 12, we flipped the script on our drive-thru pantry. Instead of having guests come to pick UP food, we had donors drive through to drop OFF food, giving our donors the guest experience while delivering groceries. Seventy-five carloads brought more than 2500 pounds of groceries (including hundreds of pounds from [Many Hands Food Pantry](#)) which our volunteers then lifted from their car trunks to be sorted, bagged and distributed later. And every donor got a cool car magnet as a thank you, and to remind others of all the good out there in the world. Look for news of another pop-up food drive coming in July!



Off the Beaten Path

For eight years now, Open Table has partnered with [Three Squares New England](#) to participate in the [Ride for Food](#), a bike ride to raise money for local food pantries. This year is a little

different: because of social distancing rules, the ride will be virtual. The cool thing about this is people can choose to bike, hike, run or swim and still raise money!

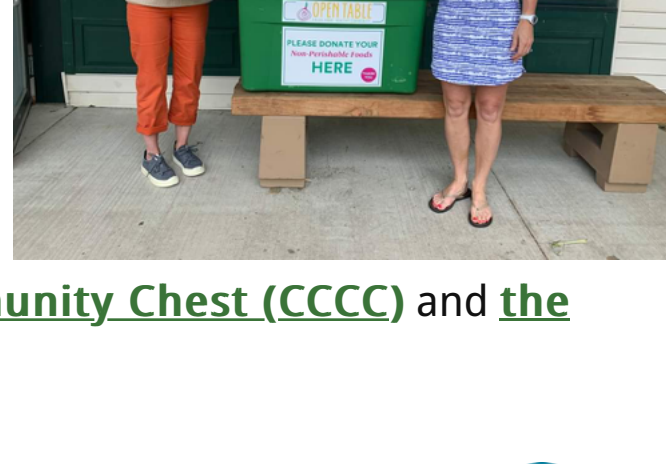
Pick your favorite outdoor activity and [join our team](#). Good news: it costs only \$25 to register! Then reach out to friends and family and ask them to support this important endeavor. Our goal is to raise \$35,000, so we need plenty of participants.

[Join or Support the Team](#)

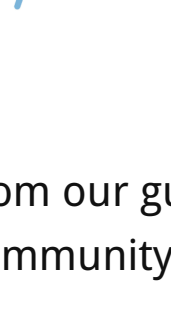
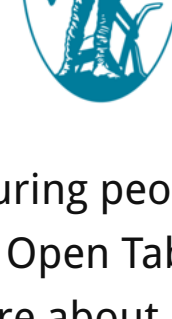
Granted

With the current climate of unemployment and uncertainty, Open Table is incredibly fortunate to have the unwavering support of local organizations. Two that have recently stepped up to ensure no one in our area

goes hungry are [Concord Carlisle Community Chest \(CCCC\)](#) and [the Parmenter Foundation](#).



CCCC takes community donations and distributes grants to local nonprofits. They have long supported Open Table, but more so this year because they recognize the increased need.

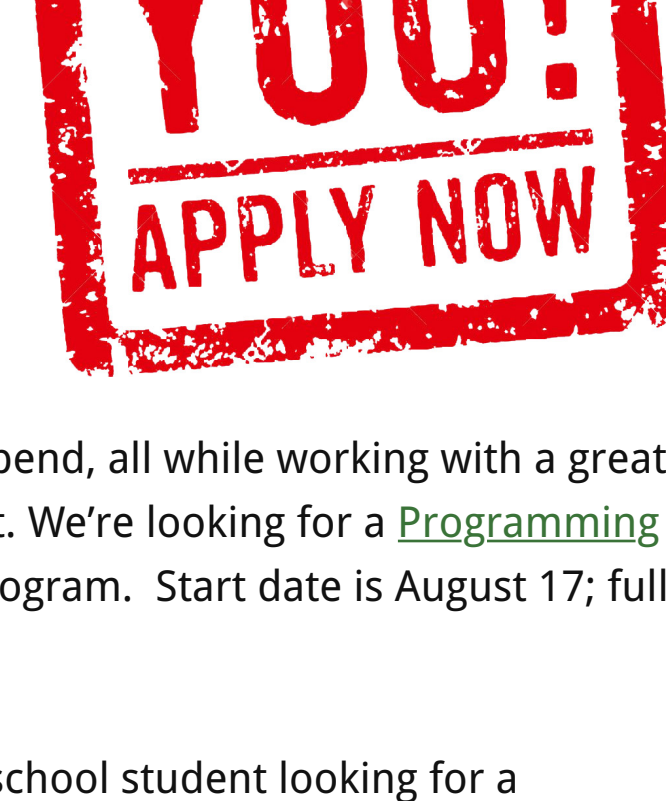


And the Parmenter Foundation's mission is to lift up and support people affected by hardship. Ensuring people are fed is a big part of what they do, so they gave Open Table a generous grant to make that happen. Learn more about their recent grant program [HERE](#).

From our guests and volunteers, a huge thank you to Concord Carlisle Community Chest and the Parmenter Foundation – you're part of our family!

Career Boost

Comm Corp Internship: Looking to jump-start your career? Are you between jobs, a recent college grad, or needing a way back into the workforce? We've got a position for you!



The [Commonwealth Corps](#) is a state-funded service internship program administered by the Massachusetts Service Alliance. You'll get training and development as well as a semi-monthly stipend, all while working with a great team of people and helping out a nonprofit. We're looking for a [Programming Assistant](#) to help with our mobile pantry program. Start date is August 17; full details can be found on our website [here](#).

Summer Volunteer: And if you're a high school student looking for a rewarding way to spend part of your summer days, and a great boost for your resume, come join us! We're looking for an outgoing person to help with volunteer management: emails, volunteer registration, scheduling, outreach, etc. Just ten hours a week. Anyone interested should contact Sandi Mrowka at volunteer@opentable.org.

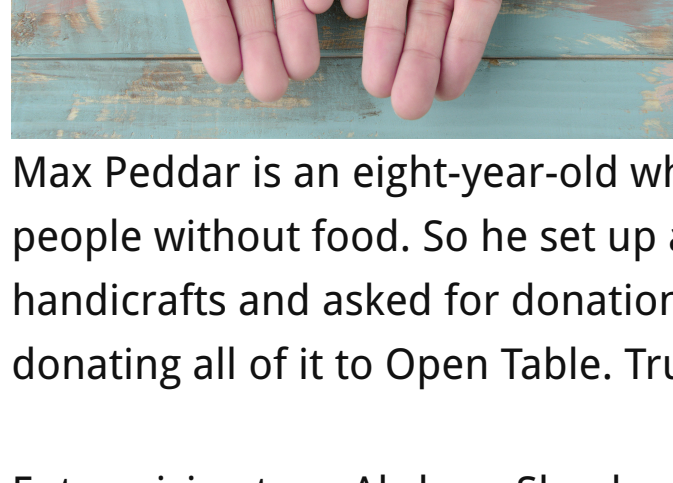
Come join us, we're a lot of fun to work with!

Black Lives Matter

While our intrepid staff and volunteers continue the heavy lifting of getting food to people in need, our board has been looking inward to ensure we are meeting the needs of ALL people in need. We share with you our statement on the Black Lives Matter movement:

Open Table stands in support of the Black Lives Matter Movement. We join communities around the country and globe mourning the lives of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and so many others black lives that have been lost as a result of systemic racism. A healthy community is one that rejects racism in all its forms.

Our board and staff pledge to work actively to identify all forms of bias within our programs and hiring processes, and if found, to address them through training and program modifications. Throughout our 30-year history, Open Table's mission has been to provide healthy food in a welcoming environment while respecting the dignity of those we serve. We proudly and firmly recommit to this mission. Our continuing efforts to address food insecurity are just one step towards eliminating the health and social disparities that disproportionately impact communities of color. We welcome the opportunity to engage with our friends and neighbors in making our community and our country a more racially equitable place to live.



Heartfelt thanks

Our support comes in all sizes – and ages. Here are some of the children and teens we have the privilege to have as supporters:

Max Peddar is an eight-year-old who decided he wanted to do something for people without food. So he set up a stand in front of his house, sold handicrafts and asked for donations. He handily beat his goal of \$100 raised, donating all of it to Open Table. Truly a generous young man.

Enterprising teen Akshara Shankar, now a college student, started a website as a high school freshman called [Many Hands](#) to identify the specific items needed by food pantries, with the goal of making it easier for potential donors to pick up those items. It has morphed into so much more. Recently she and Justin Battick donated 783 pounds of donated groceries to Open Table, ensuring more families will be fed.

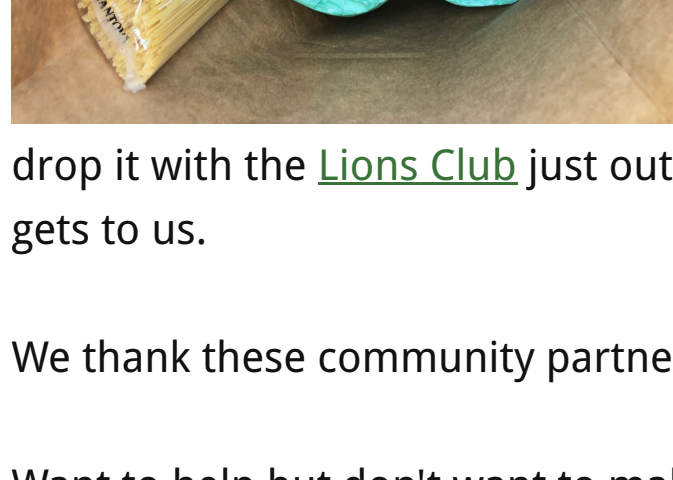
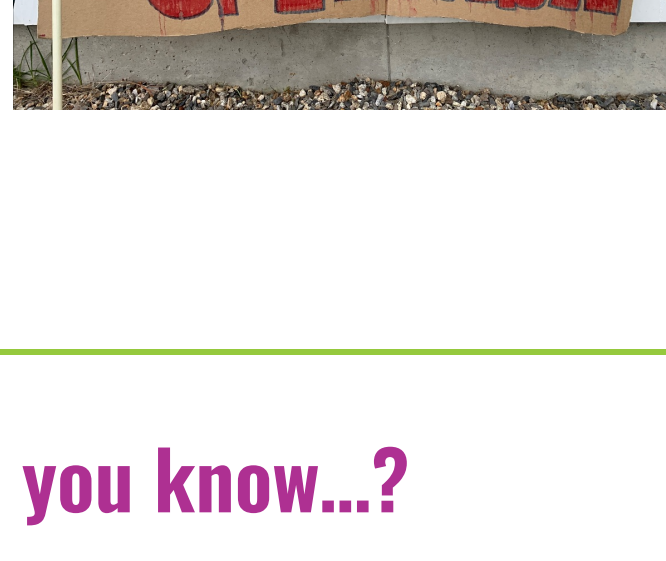
And [National Charity League](#) is a mother-daughter philanthropic organization that chooses local nonprofits to support by volunteering their time and talents. Our local chapter, Middlesex, has made centerpieces for our community dinners, prepared meals, stocked the pantry and run food drives. But this year the character of the young women shone as they decided to take the funds earmarked for their year-end celebration and donate them to Open Table, to aid us in our mission of feeding people.

We are not only immensely grateful to all of these young people, but incredibly proud and confident that, as they go out into the world, they will make it a better place.

Food drive thanks

What kind of food pantry would we be without food?? Thanks to these many generous souls who ran food drives, we have plenty to supplement our allotment from [Greater Boston Food Bank](#) and [Gaining Ground](#):

[Concord Boy Scout Troop 132](#)
[Hanscom AFB](#)
[Concord Lions Club](#) at [Crosby's Market](#)
Bellows Farm Neighborhood
[Kerem Shalom](#)
Fowler Middle School
Lindsay Pond Neighborhood (Concord)
[National Charity League of Middlesex County](#)
Mattison Drive Neighborhood (Concord)



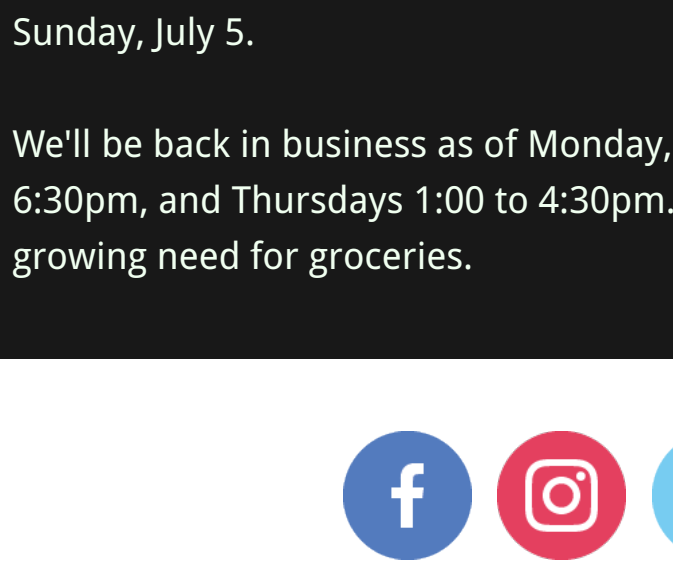
Did you know...?

If you'd like to donate groceries to Open Table but don't know exactly what we need, you can pick up a pre-packed bag at [Crosby's Market](#) in Concord. Each bag is stocked with essential items and costs \$15.99. Add it to your grocery bill and drop it with the [Lions Club](#) just outside the front entrance; they'll make sure it gets to us.

We thank these community partners for making food donations easy!

Want to help but don't want to make a trip to a grocery store? Financial donations allow us to purchase food at reduced prices, meaning more for your dollars, or allow us to purchase supplies to keep our volunteer, guests, and staff safe - and you don't need to leave your home.

[Donate Now](#)



Independence Day & New Hours

Our volunteers have been working so hard we want them to have a break, so we're giving them the week before the Fourth of July off. Open Table will be closed from Saturday, June 27 through

Sunday, July 5.

We'll be back in business as of Monday, July 6, with **new hours**: Tuesdays 1:00 to 6:30pm, and Thursdays 1:00 to 4:30pm. This will give us more time to meet the growing need for groceries.

