



# OPEN TABLE

MORE LOVE — LESS HUNGER

## News from Around the Table



**TWICE AS MANY  
Feeding People  
Where They Are**

### Happy December!

Many of our clients are busy families, often juggling more than one job as well as childcare. It's not just hard for them to afford healthy food, but they are short on time to shop for and prepare it. Supplying families with fresh produce, protein and dairy, as well as prepared meals, is one more way we are #FeedingPeopleWhereTheyAre.

And when you give today, your donation will go twice as far with our \$50k match from the Gilson Family Foundation - but only through December 31st, so if you haven't had a chance to donate yet, now is an excellent time.

Match My Gift!

The Gilson family understands the importance of feeding people where they are, and with your participation, we'll start the new year able to get greater quantities of food to where it's needed most.

**WEEKLY FOOD for  
550  
FAMILIES**

**SERVING PEOPLE in  
21  
CITIES AND TOWNS**

**UP TO 1428  
MEALS EACH WEEK**

### End of December Schedule

It's the holiday season, and we want EVERYONE to be able to enjoy the time with family and friends. To ensure this happens for our staff and volunteers, Open Table will be **closed starting Friday, December 23rd, reopening Tuesday, January 3rd.** During that first week of January, pre-packed bags only will be available; there won't be any online orders. Online and phone orders will start again on January 5th for the following week. Volunteer shifts are cancelled 12/24-12/31 unless otherwise notified. Please contact us at [info@opentable.org](mailto:info@opentable.org) with any questions. And Happy Holidays!



### Welcome, Jonathan!

Open Table welcomes our **newest board member, Jonathan Magasanik.**

Technically, it's not a welcome, as Jonathan has been volunteering at Open Table for over three years now, filling bags for clients on Thursday mornings and helping out at the Ride for Food and our signature fundraising event, Chopped for Charity. It's these last two jobs that bring him onto our fundraising committee, co-chairing the 2023 Chopped event alongside Norma Frye.

Says Jonathan, "Over the past three years, I've seen just how much of a difference Open Table can make in people's lives. Now it's my turn to make a difference to Open Table so that the organization can continue to fight food insecurity in our local community."

Read more of Jonathan's impressive resume and those of our other illustrious Board members on the [Meet the Team](#) page on our website.

### Holiday Cheer

Our volunteers have been busy bees, popping up here and there at the various holiday happenings in our local communities:

- helping runners at the Concord Turkey Trot
- selling granola at the Saint Matthew's Festival of Sharing
- collecting food donations at the Maynard Holiday Parade, and
- taking photos with Rudolph and playing Reindeer games at the Concord Tree Lighting.



We're lucky to have so many volunteers willing to take time out of their own holiday events to take the mission of Open Table to where people are, and be the face of our organization in these local communities. It's a great way to keep our mission front and center, and if you saw them at one of these places, we hope you stopped by to say hello.



### Making the Holidays Meaningful

We are overwhelmed with gratitude! Over 300 individuals and families have registered to provide holiday gift bags for local seniors or families. We hope that this program makes the holidays more meaningful not only for the families who rely on Open Table, but for those giving as well.

Remember: Gift bags will be collected in **Maynard on Friday, December 16, 2-6pm** and at **Crosby's Market in Concord on Saturday, December 17, 10am-1pm.**



### Wonderful Winter Windows

We have been so fortunate to have such talented artists update our windows recently. First, a team from [Apellis Pharmaceuticals](#) crafted a group of chefs gathering together to prepare a meal for Thanksgiving. At the same time, **Apellis employees across the globe** helped donate the equivalent of 200 bags of much needed holiday groceries to support local families this coming winter.

And this past weekend, **Margot Kimball, Olga Ledis, and Krista Erickson** showed off their painting prowess by updating the windows with a winter celebration of food. Stop by our 33 Main Street, Maynard location any time to see the latest art on display (hopefully when there aren't many banana boxes blocking the view!)



### Help Raise the Gavel at Chopped

In the depths of winter, spring seems like a million years away. But our intrepid team of [Chopped for Charity](#) event planners is busy pulling together auction items. You may have a craft item you'd like to share, sports tickets to donate, or a vacation home to offer up – we need a lot of varied items! Please contact **Renee Magasanik at [rmagasanik@opentable.org](mailto:rmagasanik@opentable.org)** to discuss your what you can offer!



Contact Us



### A World of Thanks

Even with the busyness of the holiday season, so many wonderful partners, scout groups, businesses, and individuals took the time to donate time, food, money, kids' bags and so much more. We had such a large number of food donors this past month, that we've not included our regular grocery store and farm partners in this list. Thank you to all for helping to ensure that local families have healthy, full plates this holiday season!

- Adrianna Scanio
- [AlphaGraphics, Concord](#)
- [Apellis Pharmaceuticals](#)
- [Blossom Station Child Care Center](#)
- Brownie Troop 83817
- CCHS Student Government
- Concord Court House
- Cumberland Farms, Maynard
- [Emerson Hospital](#)
- [First Parish in Concord](#)
- Kate Isaacs
- [Discovery Museum](#)
- [Marshalls Farms](#)
- [Marx Funning and Fitness](#)
- [Metrowest Kung Fu](#)
- [Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation](#)
- National Charity League
- [Powder Mill Animal Hospital](#)
- Red Wagon Neighborhood Food Drive
- Robbins Park Neighborhood
- [Saint Matthew's United Methodist Church](#)
- [St. Athanasius the Great](#)
- Susan Crafts
- [The Children's Meetinghouse](#)
- [Thoreau Elementary School](#)
- Troop 67540
- [Welch's](#)
- [Willard Elementary School](#)
- [Winstanley Enterprises, LLC](#)

### Fun Food Facts: Rosemary



It's the time of year for evergreens, and what better evergreen to usher in the holidays than rosemary! Yes, this lovely herb is a member of the aromatic evergreen family, and a perfect addition to your holiday table. Used as a medicinal and culinary herb by the Greeks and Romans as early as 500 BC, rosemary can be used fresh or dried and is available May to October in the Northeast.

For a great holiday beverage, try this Mulled Wine with Orange and Rosemary recipe.

Get Recipe



#### Our Contact Information

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2022  
**Candid.**

