

OPEN TABLE

MORE LOVE – LESS HUNGER

News from Around the Table



2024 - Celebrating 35 Years

Celebrating 35 Years of Food and Friendship

What were you up to in 1989? Open Table was incorporated on April 13th that year, which means we are celebrating 35 years of service to our community throughout 2024. Stay tuned for more information, including a 35th Birthday Party!

In the meantime, we would love to hear from you with stories, pictures, or anything you'd like to share with us about your connection to Open Table through the years. Please email events@opentable.org.

[Share Your Story](#)

January is Appealing

2024 is off to a great start! Your donations, combined with motivated volunteers, means full bags of fresh produce, meat, dairy, prepared meals, and pantry products getting to clients who need them.

There's still time to give – all donations through the end of January will count toward our Annual Appeal – so if you haven't already, or want to again, please help us continue our mission and Take Hunger Off the Table.

[Donate Today!](#)



Gift Bags Bring 12 Days of Joy

Your generosity brought so much joy this holiday season. Over 420 donors from 26 towns provided 714 gift bags during our Family-to-Family program! Not only were we able to provide gift bags to all the clients we serve at our onsite and mobile food distributions, we also extended our reach to nearly 100 families living in emergency shelters in Concord, Acton and Hudson. Your gifts had a significant impact on our clients' holidays:

"This time of the year is so sad for me and when I got the Christmas treat bag it brought me some joy! Words cannot express how grateful I am!"

Thank you to everyone who donated bags, and to our volunteers who collected, sorted, and distributed them. You made this program an unqualified success!

[Learn More](#)

Volunteer Spotlight: Carolyn Coffin

Carolyn Coffin has coordinated the very successful Family-to-Family Gift Bag program for the past two years (taking over from her daughter Eliza!). She started volunteering at Open Table in 2018 in a guest support role, moved to grocery distributions and some cooking shifts as our model changed, and became Distribution Shift leader when the role was originated. Read more about Carolyn and the impact she has had volunteering at Open Table on our website. Thanks, Carolyn, for all you do!

[Read More](#)



Chopped for Charity 2024!



Our gala event is back on **Friday, May 3rd** at Nashawtuc Country Club in Concord, again hosted by Chef Joe Gatto, our Master of Ceremonies! Chopped for Charity 2024 will feature three professional chefs competing in a culinary showdown, and will include dinner, engaging silent and live auctions, and various activities for all guests. More details coming soon. **Tickets will go on sale March 1.**

[Learn More](#)

Are You Hungry to Help?

Food Drives are a valuable source of donations for Open Table. We are looking for a family or group to host a two-hour food drive each month in front of Crosby's Market in Concord. Date and time are flexible. Just two hours of your time makes a world of difference to those in need in our community. Email fooddonations@opentable.org if you are interested.



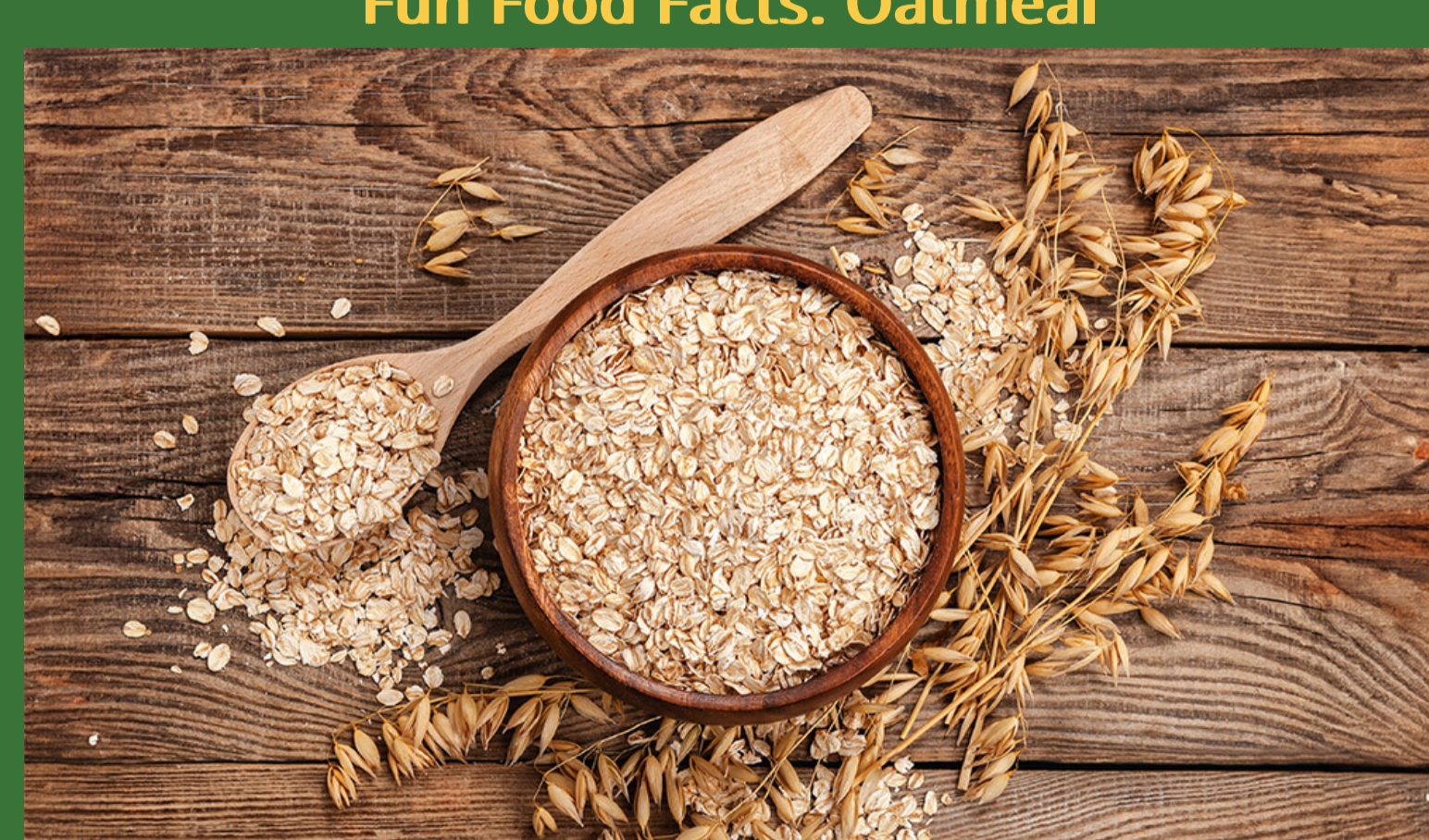
Cookies Support Meals

The Casher/Seibel, Shipley/Dirocco, Bellusci, and Triantafillou families brought up some joy with their Fourth Annual Cookie Fundraiser for Open Table. They sold 73 batches of homemade cookies this year! What a wonderful tradition to help spread More Love, Less Hunger for the holidays! Thank you

In addition, we'd like to thank our regular farm and grocery store partners and these wonderful donors:

- Adelard A. and Valeda Lea Roy Foundation
- Alcott Elementary School
- Blossom Station Child Care Center
- CHNA 15
- Concord Museum
- Crawford Idema Family Foundation
- Drumlin Farm
- Dewing Schmid Kearns
- Epsilon Associates, Inc.
- Flower Pot
- Gartner, Inc.
- Hanscom AFB
- Jersey Mike's Subs
- Lincoln Sudbury High School
- MetroWest Health Foundation
- Nashoba Brooks School
- Nashoba Area Social Justice Alliance
- Northeastern University's Circle K
- Osterman Family Foundation
- Panera Bread
- Point32Health Foundation
- Saint Matthew's United Methodist Church
- Sincere Foundation
- The Umbrella Arts Center
- Welch Foods, Inc

Fun Food Facts: Oatmeal



Of course you know that oatmeal is filling and nutritious, but did you know that oats have been around for as long as we humans have? They have been cultivated for thousands of years, with the Greeks the first to make what we would recognize as porridge or cereal. Oats can help lower your risk of heart disease, they have more protein than other grains, and yet they are also one of the most inexpensive things you can eat.

Want more oats in your diet? Think beyond the breakfast table and oatmeal cookies. Oats can replace breadcrumbs in meatloaf and serve as a topping or breading. Grind them up in the food processor and replace half the flour in baked goods such as banana bread with oats. In addition to consuming those oats, you can also use them this winter to soothe dry or irritated skin. Just add a cup of ground up oats to a warm bath.

If you are like 75% of Americans, you already have a container of oats on your shelf. Why not try this recipe for blueberry oatmeal pancakes?

[Get Recipe](#)



[Donate Now](#)

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}
{{Organization Address}}
{{Organization Phone}}
{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}