

# Enfield Loaves and Fishes, Inc. P.O. Box 544 • Enfield, CT 06083-0544 www.enfieldloavesandfishes.com



Year 2011 has been a tremendous year of changes for Enfield Loaves and Fishes, due largely to the uncertainties of the still weakened US economy. We served 42,792 meals, of which 16,641 were to children. Surprisingly, this reflects about 40% of the total meals for the year being served to children. Another 32,666 snacks were prepared for the Educational Resources for Children (ERfC), an after school program. In addition, we gave out the equivalent of 9,566 meals

for emergency home consumption. What the numbers do not reflect is how many items such as bread, pastries, drinks, fresh vegetables and fruits that were made available for our guests to take home with them over the year.

Numbers are only part of the story: Our mission is to "ease the hunger of the homeless, unemployed and the working poor in the area". With the support of Enfield and surrounding communities, the nutritious meals served each day have become a haven for those with so little. Sometimes it is a blessing just to feel warm, safe, and cared for in today's economic climate.

It has been said that many hands make light work, and we've been blessed to have a lot of helping hands. Our dedicated volunteers have made a huge difference in the lives of so many. We are honored that many private individuals, businesses, schools, churches, and civic organizations have collaborated to improve "this old church" in which Enfield Loaves and Fishes now functions. Painting rooms and adding new windows and doors has improved the appearance of the property, and installing more efficient fluorescent lighting will help reduce expenditures. Replacement of ancient, worn out equipment also increases our ability to continue our quality service.

Storm Alfred devastated Connecticut. Wet snow snapped trees and power lines. First streets, then entire towns went dark. Trees cracking in total darkness - enough to shake anyone's inner strength. Neither vehicle nor home was safe. First light revealed massive destruction. After long, cold, sleepless nights, we made fresh coffee, breakfast, and meals every day. Guests, neighbors, volunteers, and friends joined together, making this a stronger community.

So what about the future? We must sustain and improve the means to renovate the facility to suit our present and future needs. We are growing and struggling to tackle the mountains of work involved in maintaining and running an operation of this significance and magnitude.

This annual report is a snapshot of who we are, what we do, and where we are going. It is also a plea and gentle reminder of how your donations can help to ensure the ongoing survival of the Soup Kitchen, in order to provide the basic essentials necessary to feed the hungry and needy.

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Murray Brayson, President Enfield Loaves and Fishes

# **2011** ANNUAL REPORT OF CARING





# **MISSION STATEMENT**

Loaves and Fishes is committed to providing meals and fellowship to the poor, hungry, and disenfranchised within our community.





FIGHTING HUNGER







# **RON GREGORY TRIBUTE**

Enfield Loaves and Fishes wishes to pay tribute to Ron Gregory for his dedication and volunteer service for twenty-five years. Our appreciation is endless. Ron's culinary background and desire to serve those in need made him a natural in volunteering at the Soup Kitchen. He has been in food service for over fifty years, been a restaurant manager, chef in a convalescent home, the University of Hartford and Combustion Engineering. Long

ago at Loaves and Fishes, Ron not only cooked, he assisted in coordinating volunteers and planning meals.

Through the years, Ron has "worn many hats". He's cooked and served, overseen maintenance and upkeep of St. Andrew's, and made deliveries to the Food Shelf, Enfield Terrace, and the Enfield Senior Center. He networked with the Springfield Rescue Mission and Emergency Shelter after Hurricane Irene and Storm Alfred, when we had an abundance of baked goods to share. Ron served on various boards including the

Emergency Loan Fund, Enfield Council of Christian Churches, Educational Resources for Children, and Operation Fuel. He also has thirty years in volunteer Fire Service.

Church ministries have been a great part of Ron's life, serving as Secretary, Treasurer, Junior and Senior Warden, and Sexton at St. Andrew's. Previously Ron was Liturgical Assistant for the State of Connecticut, and is a licensed Lay Minister. While four Episcopal Churches were planning to merge into one, now Holy Trinity, the home of Enfield Loaves and Fishes was in jeopardy. Ron was instrumental as liaison between St. Andrew's and Loaves and Fishes to secure the location for the Soup Kitchen. With Ron's marvelous voice, where else would you expect him but in the choir loft? When Ron does have a free moment, he enjoys singing with the Barbershop Harmony Society, going fishing, and is an avid bowler. He would be thrilled to show you his trophies - just ask him! Being semi-retired, Ron still devotes about thirty-five hours a week to causes 'dear to his heart'. We are thankful and appreciative of his commitment to Enfield Loaves and Fishes in service to his brothers and sisters in need. Ron says, "My main focus in life is helping people," and that surely he has done. Ron's name may never be 'up in lights', but in the eyes of those he has served, "He will always shine"

# Enfield Loaves and Fishes Executive Board 2011



Mr. Murray Brayson – President Mrs. Priscilla Brayson – Director Mrs. Emily Leary – Acting Treasurer Mrs. Heidi Thibodeau – Co-Secretary Mrs. Charlotte Williams – Co- Secretary Mr. Scott Guilmartin – Board Member Mr. Scott Kaupin - Board Member Mr. Ken Matts - Board Member Mr. Ken Matts - Board Member Mr. Scot Stanton - Board Member Mr. Scot Stanton - Board Member Mrs. Joanne Tan - Board Member Mrs. Joanne Tan - Board Member Mrs. Joann Clark - Board Member Mrs. Joann Clark - Board Member Mrs. Lynne K Pirrello - Board Member





# JOHN JANAS'S STORY

John Janas has been coming to Enfield Loaves and Fishes for over five years. He is an engineer that has worked for world class companies, innovative leaders in manufacturing high tech products. He is on long term permanent disability resulting from Multiple Sclerosis and the disease's devastating symptoms. He said, "Soon after being diagnosed with MS, my world stopped - in the blink of an eye. Suddenly, I found myself without a steady income, as well as the comfort and security of a good job. Compounding

these hardships, my marriage crumbled shortly thereafter. What can I do? Who could I turn to? I felt as if I lost my entire family. I keep thinking of how fortunate I must have been to meet a priest who spoke one word – 'Hi'. It seemed as if he must have sensed my pain. I am so grateful the man was there. I was able to discuss and validate some of my anger, hurt, and feelings of failure. The sense of loss is incredible – the lack of purpose, of value to society, and being a part of something".

"I wrote a letter to the MS Society, which they published as written. They added my picture and a paragraph, asking for donations. United Way asked me to do presentations as well. Amazingly, donations increased dramatically. It is such a wonderful thing to help someone. It adds immeasurable self-esteem and value to my life.

Now I enjoy my hobbies and outdoor work within my physical limitations. After spraining my ankle this summer, I found it difficult to do these things, which makes me feel depressed. Hands-on work helps me to feel more connected, useful, and self-sufficient. I have to do many of my own repairs for financial reasons to save money, for I am in fear of losing my home. Some repairs I can't physically do myself, which is another source of frustration.

I go to Loaves and Fishes because I am in financial crisis due to my low disability income. It is so difficult to make ends meet - just barely keeping my head above water. There are days when my body feels so fatigued due to MS, especially during the warmer weather. Coming to EL&F helps me in so many ways. There are hot, nutritious meals, fresh fruits, donations of clothing that fit me, household items, and even books. I count my blessings daily. Priscilla, the Director, always has a smile on her face, and finds the time to say 'hello' to me. Every day you can find laughter and friendship in the air: simple things that make the quality of life better. You have no idea how much this place means to me!

Life has been a great teacher to me, providing both lessons on relating with people, especially those undergoing hardships; and showing me the value of each breath I take, of each person I encounter, every minute of the day. I have an 'Attitude of Gratitude', and have learned to 'Walk Between The Raindrops'. I don't have everything I want, but I do have everything I need. When asked how I'm doing, I respond, 'Not bad for a guy my age'."

WE ARE A MEMBER OF THE ENFIELD WOMEN'S CLUB, ENFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND THE ENFIELD COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES.

- \*WE PERIODICALLY UPDATE OUR WEBSITE: WWW.ENFIELDLOAVESANDFISHES.COM
- \* BEALTIFICATION OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS WAS COMPLETED BY THE ENFIELD JR. WOMEN'S CLUB, AND THE ENFIELD WOMEN'S CLUB OUR SAVIOR LUTTHERAN CHURCH IN SUFFIELD, HOME FRONT VOLUNTEERS, CIGNA AND UTC EMPLOYEES "DAY OF CARING",

## HIGHLIGHTS

\* ENFIELD LOAVES AND FISHES COLLABORATED WITH ERFC (EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN) BY PROVIDING 32,666 SNACKS AND MINI- MEALS FOR (5) SCHOOLS HOUSED AT (3) LOCATIONS.

\* SHOPRITE SUPERMARKET HOSTED A FOOD DRIVE FOR LOAVES AND FISHES. THROUGH THE EFFORT OF ALMOST 40

VOLUNTEERS, ENOUGH FOOD AND DONATIONS WERE COLLECTED TO SUPPLY THE SOUP KITCHEN FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.



 THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SIT-DOWN DINNERS WERE HELD AT LOAVES AND FISHES, AND EACH GUEST WAS SERVED BY A WAITER/WAITRESS.
SANTA WAS ON HAND TO PASS OUT PRESENTS FOR CHRISTMAS TO THE CHILDREN. EVERYONE RECEIVED GIFTS.
\* GAME DINNER (FUND RAISER)

\* CIAME DIRINER (FUND RAISER) \* RILEY DANCE STUDIO (FUND RAISER) \* FLU SHOTS WERE GIVEN BY HOME & COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE

\* ENFIELD LOAVES AND FISHES BENEFITED FROM A GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORED BY MAINE FISH MARKET & RESTAURANT OF EAST WINDSOR.

# **SPECIAL THANK YOU - 2011 ORGANIZATIONAL CONTRIBUTORS**

**BANKS-CREDIT UNIONS:** 

American Eagle Federal Credit Union Bank of America Enfield Community Federal Credit Union Enfield Federal Savings First Pioneer Farm Credit A.C.A. New Alliance Bank New England Bank Rockville Savings Bank Saving Institute Bank & Trust Sovereign Bank Sun Life Financial Tobacco Valley Teachers Federal Credit Union US Trust Bank of America Webster Bank N. A. - Waterbury BUSINESSES: Action Pest Control Acme Auto Leasing, LLC Ahoy Water Treatment Allied Rehab / Enfield Star Alstom Power Inc. / Windsor Amber Food sales Around Town Singers Bauer Advertising, LLC Beaver Tree Service, LLC Bielonko Farms Big Y – Ellington Big Y – Enfield Blue Thunder Technologies Bombardier Aerospace / Employees Books to Dreams, Inc. Browne Funeral Home Cacchiola Paving Camerota Truck Parts Carl's Appliance Service Charles Hayden / Magician Carris Reels Inc. Chicoine Family Farm, LLC Chubb Federal Insurance Company Common Ground Rotary Garden – Enfield Community Enterprises, Inc. – Windsor Community Hartford SNET Companions & Homemakers Constitution Cable Products, Inc. -East Windsor Costco Cox Communications - New England Cox Charities / United Way (Providence RI) C&S Wholesale Grocers Curves For Women – Enfield DBA Hopewell Vision Diana's Bakery Earthtone Farms, LLC Eastern Claims Conference Assn. Easy Pickin's Orchard Edward Dental Labs Elzbieta Corp Emergency Aid Assn. – Suffield Enfield Animal Hospital, Inc. Enfield Builders Enfield Food Shelf Enfield School Nurse Association Enfield Street Auto Evolution Benefits / Women's Health Falcon Press Fallon Law Office, LLC Family Ford of Enfield Farms of Southern New England Focused Food Marketing GiGi's Native Produce Geissler's Super Market Granny's Pies Factory Grower Direct Farms Hallmark Cards, Inc. Hamilton Sundstrand Technical Hartford Retirees Club Hasting Farms – Suffield Hazardville Motors Highland Park Market High Meadow Resort – Granby Home Depot – Enfield Housing Enterprises, Inc. Huot Enterprises, Inc. DBA Castle Interiors Integrity Martial Arts, LLC Irish Bend Orchard Farm Janik Sausage Co. Inc. Jeffrey P. Thompsen, MD, LLC. J. Francis Browne Company Inc. Johnny's Roadside Market Garden Kelly Fradet Lumber Large and Page Communications Leete Stevens Enfield Chapels Lil' Buddy's, Inc. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day McDonald's Restaurant - Enfield Maine Fish Market - East Windsor

Marcom Communications, Inc. Marshalls' Employees Mass Mutual Center / Employees Maverick Group Tower Square Minit Car Wash Mobile Aircraft Painters Inc Molina's Cafe Mount Carmel 99 Restaurant & Pub New Britain Candy New England Lawn Companies, Inc. Old Navy / Enfield Olive Garden - Enfield On Line Resources Corp. Otter Creek Productions Oxen Hill Farm, LLC Panera Bread Parkway Pavillion Pepperidge Farm Pepsi Cola Botting Co. Phylogic Healthcare, LLC Pioneer Cold - Chicopee, MA Plastic Packaging Corp Protech Enterprises Rapid Transit Riley's School of Dance & Students River Street Farms Scantic Valley Farm S. G. Milazzo & Company ShopRite Signature Flight Support - E. Granby Silvia's Gourmet Restaurant SNET - Hartford Somers Ace Hardware LLC Somers Supper Club Spazzarini Construction, Co. S & S Furnace Sales Inc. State of CT Correction Dept. St. Joseph Residence - Enfield Starbucks Stateline Senior Services, LLC Stop & Shop STR Suffield By The River, LLC Suffield Veterinary Hospital Sun Life Insurance Co. of Canada Sun Life Financial Sunside Farms Sweet Wind Farms Target Taylor Rental - Enfield T.E.A.M. @ A.W. Hastings The Counseling Cooperative The Hartford Fire Ins. Co The Hartford Insurance The Paradies Shops The Martin Brower Company, LLC Thompsonville Community Garden Thunder Mountain Inc. Tobacco Valley Teachers Federal Credit Union Town of Enfield Tracy Driscoll Ins. Transportation Marketing & Logistics T & R Wholesale Foods, Inc. - MA T Square Builders, LLC - Somers Turf Products UPS Supply Chain Solutions USA Hauling and Recycling, Inc. Victorian Sentiments Visiting Nurse Health Service of CT U.STORE.IT United Technologies Walgreen Distribution Center Wal-Mart Weed Man - Chicopee White Eagle Farms William Laboratories Inc. Windsor Locks Social Services Word Com Inc. Woodcock Refrigeration Co., Inc XL Center - Hartford Yankee Marketers Yard House CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS: All Saints Church Holy Name Society / Faith Formation - Somersville Amazing Grace Church - Enfield Archdiocese of Hartford Calvary Presbyterian Church - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group, Enfield Community of Christ Church -E. Windsor

Church World Service, Inc. Congregational Church Golden Saints - Windsor Locks Congregational Church - Somersville Congregational Church Mission -W. Suffield Dominican Laity / Mother of God Chapter 3rd Order Enfield Congregational Church Ecumenical Christian Council of Churches Enfield CT. Felician Sisters First Church of Suffield First Church of Christ Congregational Women's Fellowship Holy Family Church / St.Vincent de Paul Holy Trinity Church Life Church / Granby Ministries of Love and Hope - Enfield New Life Community Church - Enfield Our Lady of Mount Carmel Aux. Our Savior Lutheran Church - S.Windsor Sacred Heart Church - Suffield Sisters of Notre Dame de Nomur St. Adalbert Church - Enfield St. Bernard Church / St. Vincent de Paul St. Catherine Church - Broad Brook Saint Joseph Residence and Residents Enfield St. Martha Church Prayer Group - Enfield St. Mary Church Small Christian Comm - Windsor Locks St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox - Enfield St. Patrick's Church / 8th Grade CCD -Enfield Second Baptist Church - Suffield St. Philip Church Secular Franciscan Order St. Joseph Fraternity Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church Simsbury Somers Congregational Church UCC Suffield Congregational Church The First Church in Windsor United Methodist Church - Enfield United Methodist Church - Hazardville West Suffield Congregational Church SCHOOLS: Alcorn School Asnuntuck Community College I.S.R.f.C - Educational Resources for Children - Enfield Enfield High School Students Faculty / Clubs Enfield Montessori School Enfield Public Schools Enrico Fermi High School Faculty / Clubs / Societies JFK Middle School / Community Service Club / Students and Faculty Lincoln Culinary Institute - Suffield The Loomis Chaffee School Mabelle B. Avery Middle School SAVE Club Students and Faculty - Somers Montser' School Parkman School Prudence Crandall School Public Safety Academy Spaulding School - Suffield St. Adalbert School - Enfield St. Bernard School, West - Enfield St. Martha Roman Catholic School / Parish Enfield Suffield Regional Agriscience Center Suffield Middle Schools The Enfield Montessori School Windsor Locks High School **CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS:** AARP Enfield Chapter 3062 AARP, North Central Chapter 1209 Courtney for Congress Cub Scout Pack 391 Enfield Democratic Town Committee Enfield Junior Women's Club Enfield Rotary Club / Community Garden Foodshare, Inc. A Partner of America's 2nd Harvest

Girl Scout Troop 10348 - Enfield Girl Scout Troop 10758 - Enfield Scout Troop 819 - Enfield Somers Women's Club American Legion Riders Post 154 Cybulski Correctional Inst. VFW Post 10219 Hazardville Station VFW

MacDougall Walker Correctional Inst. Pat's Angels Outlaws M/C - Enfield Charter North Central CT Chamber of Commerce North Thompsonville Fire Dept. Somers Rotary Club Somers Supper Club Somers Women's Club Somers Vol. Fire Dept. Suffield Emergency Aid Suffield Vol Firemen's Assoc. Suffield Rotary Club Taste of Enfield / Town of Enfield Thompsonville Fire Dept Thompsonville Little League United Way of Capital Area, Inc. - Htfd Voices For Thompsonville Windsor Locks Fire Dept. Woman's Club of Enfield

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Alpha Delta Kappa of Springfield, MA Alpha Delta Kappa of Enfield American Legion Post 17 American Legion Post 154 American Legion Rider Post 15 Rinaldi Fede Aux. **Disabled American Veterans** Chapter 52 Enfield Elks Club BPOE 2222 Enfield Lions Club Inc. Knights of Columbus / Enfield Knights of Columbus Riverside Council - W. Locks Knights of Columbus - Suffield Laureate Tau North Central CT Lawyers Assoc. NWTF N. Central CT Chapter Suffield Firemens' Assoc American Legion Post 80 Tanguay Magill Windsor Locks / Lions Woman of the Moose Thompsonville Moose Lodge 1525 **VFW Post 10219** Aux - Hazardville Station FOUNDATIONS: Aetna Foundation (Match Grant) Antonacci Family Foundation AT&T United Way Employee Giving Campaign Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation Inc. CA Inc. Carris Corporate Foundation, Inc Feinstein Family Foundation Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Home Depot Foundation KCI Servant's Heart Foundation Keeney Foundation Inc. Mass Mutual (Match Grant) Pfizer (Match Gifts) Rockville Bank Foundation, Inc. Rotary Club Foundation/Suffield SBM Charitable Foundation Inc. Sun Life Financial (Match Grant) The Rhode Island Community Foundation Truist TYCO (Match Gifts) T.E.A.M. United Healthcare (Employee Giving Campaign) United Technologies (Match Grant) United Way of Central & Northeast CT

United Way on behalf of Frank Buck, Brad Huskinson United Way Special Dist. Acct for Carl Sarno

UPS / Kevin Mcveigh Wal-Mart Foundation Wayne Westbrook Rev. Werth Family Foundation

**OTHER:** Charles Alfano Roger W. Bradley Thurston Family Jeanne Cigal Wayne Westbrook Frank & Ann Kuzara St. Patrick Permit #16

We have made every effort to ensure accuracy and apologize for any errors or omissions.

Saints



# "HUNGER HAS NO SEASON"

# WHO ARE WE?

Loaves and Fishes is a nonprofit, volunteer program incorporated in 1982. Our purpose is to feed and aid the disenfranchised.

# WHERE ARE WE?

We are located in Hargrave Hall at the Olde St. Andrew's Church, 28 Prospect St.

## MAILING ADDRESS

Enfield Loaves and Fishes, Inc. P.O. Box 544 • Enfield, CT 06083-0544

PHONE NUMBER: (860) 741-0226 OUR WEB SITE IS: www.enfieldloavesandfishes.com

# **FACTS**

The number of Guests served has increased dramatically from 15,625 meals in 1992 to **42,792** meals in **2011**. Of the thousand of meals served, **16,641** meals, or about **40%** were to children. In additional another **32,666** snacks were prepared for children in ERfC (Educational Resources for Children) after school programs encompassing five schools. Another **9,566** meals were provided for home consumption in emergency situations.

We are staffed almost exclusively by volunteers from the community and operate under the guidance of a Director and a volunteer Board of Directors.

Dinners are served Sunday through Friday from 4-5 p.m. and on Saturday from 11 - 12:30 p.m., with various churches and organizations providing the meals and volunteers on Saturdays and Sundays.

# AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

# HOW CAN YOU HELP?

**Enfield Loaves and Fishes** is solely dependent upon donations and volunteer help from individuals, churches, organizations, corporations and local businesses in North Central Connecticut throughout the year.

The soup kitchen **does not** receive monetary support from local, state or federal governments.

There is a constant need for volunteers and donatins since **"Hunger Has No Season."** Monetary donations support food purchases, rent, insurance, supplies, equipment purchases, and maintenance.

Volunteers are needed to help with the transportation of food and supplies, stocking,

food preparation, serving, and cleanup.