LOAVES and FISHES

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

"Share your bread with the hungry." This was written over 2,700 years ago. It is not a complicated concept – although, as you well know, it requires so much work. And with the national economy booming, we often feel that poverty has gone away. But we know the poor will



always be with us; we are glad to do our small part to end hunger and food insecurity in the area.

Two thousand nineteen was no different. We continued to offer a nutritious, delicious, complete meal once a day, healthful snacks for children in after school programs, a clean and safe place for Guests to socialize, and much more.

For example, a day doesn't go by when Priscilla and I are not confronted by something out of the ordinary. When a woman came in to report that someone threw all her belongings into the river, a social media post got overwhelming support for her. We are also at the front lines of the opioid epidemic that has plagued so many.

Yes, last year we served more than 90,000 meals, handed out more than 27,000 children's snack items, and provided over 53,000 meals for emergency home consumption. We also provide a variety of clothing, coats, blankets, sleeping bags, tents, boots and shoes for those in need.

This year, we have some expensive purchases to make by order of the health department. A new hand sinks needs to be installed behind our serving line. We also need a new sterilizer, ice machine, and bay-marie. The cost will be over \$20,000.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you all so very much for all of your generous support. This could never have been possible without your help!

Sincerely,

Marray Brayson, President Enfield Loaves and Fishes, Inc.

Professionals Interested in Becoming Board Members: Please Forward a Resume to EL&F.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT of Caring



DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS



MISSION STATEMENT



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



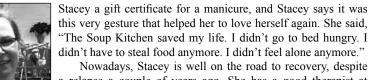
FIGHTING HUNGER



For Many, Life Is a Struggle, but Enfield Loaves & Fishes Provides a Ray of Hope

Eleven years ago, Stacey lost everything in her world: her benefits, her home, and custody of her daughter. She described herself as being "100 percent homeless." She had a drug problem. She even spent some time in prison. She was a thief, by her own admission, stealing from the then-Shaw's Supermarket in Enfield for something to eat. The former Stafford resident was a mess. She was starving. Even though she was stubbornly self-reliant, she came to the swift realization that she needed help. Badly.

Someone told her about Enfield Loaves and Fishes, where she immediately enjoyed the delicious afternoon meal and made friends with fellow guests. She was so grateful for the food and care provided that she told others about it as well. She also formed close relationships with Priscilla and Murray that lasts to this day. Some time ago, Priscilla gave | the help of Enfield Loaves and Fishes.



a relapse a couple of years ago. She has a good therapist at Community Health Resources on Hazard Avenue. She says she has been sober since 2016. As for the future, she intends to move to South Carolina with her mother.

Stacey feels indebted to all those who helped her through her most difficult periods. Now, she readily describes herself as "so happy" with an enormous smile, and says she has "slowly gained everything back" with

Enfield Loaves and Fishes Executive Board 2019



Mrs. Priscilla Brayson - Executive Director Mr. Murray Brayson - President David Tuttle - Vice-President Ms. Theresa Dodd - Treasurer Mr. Charles Palomba - Secretary Mr. Aldo Della Giustina – Board Member Mrs. Jill Brody - Board Member Mrs. JoAnn Clark - Board Member Jo-Ann Ciccaglione - Board Member Joann McDermott - Board Member



"I Feel Humble": 20 Year Volunteer Has Lifelong Passion for Helping Others



Barbara Sullivan is a fixture at the soup kitchen. A youthful and spry 81, with snowy white hair, a permanent smile, and a cheerful voice, she and her older husband John show up at 1 o'clock every Thursday, three hours before dinner is served, and stay till about six. They both help with whatever needs doing, however mundane it may seem, before the guests begin to make their way through the doors: they prepare the fruit appetizers, wrap up silverware with paper napkins, and serve dinner.

The Windsor Locks resident has dedicated much of her life to helping others, and even got a master's degree to become a Catholic chaplain. The former high school math teacher and day care center operator has spent many a day at the St. Mary Home in West Hartford. "I especially enjoy spending time with the dying," she said. "You can learn so much from that experience."

A parishioner at Mary, Gate of Heaven Parish, Barbara started at Enfield Loaves and Fishes 20 years ago, just a couple of years after John. "I love giving back," she said. "Our faith is very important to us, and I have been blessed with so much. There is a profound sense of humility I feel every time I spend time with the sick, the hungry, the poor."

"Volunteering has always been a part of both of our lives," Barbara said. "I especially like helping out at the soup kitchen because everyone is so nice and friendly, everyone from the other volunteers right on down to the clients."

So is it also a social activity? "Yes," Barbara replies eagerly. "Especially as I get older, it's great to get out of the house and mingle with others."

She relates a story. Recently, John has been in the hospital with health problems. Priscilla, when she says grace before dinner every afternoon, has told the guests about his struggles. And lately, when Barbara has shown up to volunteer without John, guests have asked about "the old man," as they call him, wishing him well, praying for him, and hoping he comes back soon.

She knows many of the guests by name, and she is amazed by the fellowship and friendship she sees among the needy who break bread at the soup kitchen. "I am just humbled at how these guests look out for each other and how they are surviving."

It breaks her heart to see how drugs and alcohol have ruined so many lives. "One woman told me not long ago that she knows she is an alcoholic." Barbara knows this is the first step toward recovery.

When asked about how she feels about being a featured volunteer in this year's newsletter, she described it as the modest woman she is might: "Honored."

IGHLIGHTS

- ♦ Enfield Loaves and Fishes collaborated with Educational Resources for Children (ERfC) by providing 27,180 snack items and mini-meals for 8 schools housed at 5 locations.
- ◆ Food drives: Honda of Windsor, Most Excellent Gaming, ShopRite and Stop & Shop hosted food drives for Enfield Loaves and Fishes. Through the effort of almost 80 volunteers, enough food and donations were received to supply the Soup Kitchen for several months.
- ◆ Various fundraisers: Otter Creek Game Dinner, Fisherman Breakfast and Gaming for Gains.
- **♦** Enfield Loaves and Fishes was a guest on the Kissell and Friends CPTV Program.
- **♦** A new back door and stair lift were installed.

- ♦ We are members of: Enfield Hunger Action Team, Enfield Safe Harbor Warming Center, St. Bernard / St. Vincent dePaul and in Partnersship with Foodshare.
- ♦ We benefit from Day of Caring Volunteerism from: The Hartford, Waste Management Co., and Eversource Employees, Super Steam Squad, Veeder Root, Loomis Chaffee, C&S Wholesale Employees, Windsor Locks Honda, Windsor Honda, 360 Federal Credit Union, Jet Blue Employees, Sysco Family, Suffield Knights of Columbus, Red Robin, Connecticut Water Co., and Simpson Strong-Tie.
- ♦ Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday sit-down dinners were held at Loaves and Fishes, and each Guest was served by a waiter/waitress. Thanks to the donors, Santa was on hand to pass out gifts to about 400 guests. Over 250 children especially enjoyed receiving gifts.
- **♦** Enfield High School students cooked our turkeys for Thanksgiving.
- **♦** Periodic updating of the website.

SPECIAL THANK YOU - 2019 ORGANIZATIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

Banks / Credit Unions:

360 Federal Credit Union

Bank of America, Employee Giving Enfield Community Federal Credit Union

Farm Credit Fast

Tobacco Valley Teachers Federal Credit Union

Webster Bank

Windsor Locks Federal Credit Union Windsor Federal Savings

Businesses:

Able Care & Pharmacy Acapulco's Restaurant

American Honda Motors - Windsor

Airways Golf Curse

Artioli Chrysler Dodge

A. Sterling Insurance Agency

Austin Brook Sportsmens Association

Big Y - Enfield

Bielonko Farms

Bob's Discount Furniture

Bombardier Aerospace Employees

Bright Beginnings

Browne Memorial Chapels

Cans for Kids

Carr Hardware

Carritos Enfield, dba Acapulco's

Chromalloy

Connecticut Water Company

Constitution Cable Products, Inc.

Costco - Enfield

Cycle Gear

Danny's Restaurant

Diana's Bakery

Digital Imaging Solutions

Dollar Tree - Windsor

Easy Pickin's Orchard

Edanse Company and Ballroom

Embrear Services and Support

Enfield Animal Hospital

Enfield Community Garden

Fallon Law Office, LLC

Family Ford of Enfield

Farms of Southern New England

Figaro's Restaurant

Foodshare

Frontier Communications

Geissler's Super Market - East Windsor /

Granby

Golden Gavel Auction House

Grandma's Pies

Great Clips

Greys A A, Inc.

Grassmere Ladies Golf League

Great American Insurance Company

Halladay Farm

Harp Realty, LLC

Hasting Farms - Suffield

Head-Rush Salon

Hedberg Data Systems

High Meadow Resort - Granby Highland Park Market - Suffield

Hines, Attorney Charles D.

Home Goods

Housing Enterprises, Inc.

Iron Order Motorcycle Club

Janik Sausage Company, Inc.

Jet Blue Airlines

Johnny Appleseed Farm

Jav's Barber Shop

Jeffrey P. Thompson, MD, LLC

JetBlue CSR

Kelly Fradet Lumber

Kohl's Department Store - Enfield

Krupa Oil Company

Law Offices of E. Spinella, Esq. Leete Stevens Funeral Chapels

Lil' Buddys Mini Mart

Maine Fish Market & Restaurant

Matt's Sports Cards

Mark's Restaurant

Magic Minit Car Wash

Max Cares

Mobile Aircraft Painters. Inc.

Most Excellent Comics and Collectibles Navagators Management Co., Inc.

Network for Good

North Central CT Lawyers Association

Olive Garden - Enfield

Once Upon a Child

Otter Creek Productions

Outback Steakhouse

Oxen Hill Farm, LLC

Panera Bread

Pappas Family Dentistry

Paul Morin Construction Corp.

Philadelphia Insurance Company

Phoenix Manufacturing, Inc.

Raymond James Corp.

Red Robin of Enfield, LLC

Reid and Reige, PC

Renato's Sewing Machine, LLC

Residential Realty Boutique

Rolling Meadow Mens Golf Association

Rovithis Realty, LLC

S. Camerota & Sons, Inc.

Scantic Valley Farm

SCA Pharma

Shah, Dr. Darshan

ShopRite - Enfield

Silvia's Gourmet Restaurant

Simpson Strong-Tie

Smyth's Bus Company, Inc.

Sofia's Restaurant

Sonny's Place

Southern New England Floor Covering

State of CT

State Farm Insurance

Stop & Shop - Enfield

Subway - Enfield

Suffield Pizza

Suffield Veterinary Hospital

Tall Pines Rooming House

Target - Enfield

Taylor Rental Center of Enfield

The Barn Yard Enterprises

The Hartford Fire Insurance Company

The Weed Man

Tittarelli, Inc.

Tobacco Valley Teachers Credit Union

Travelers

Turf Products, LLC

Veeder-Root Co. Employees

Waste Management - Windsor

Wal-Mart Corporation

Wendy's - Enfield

W. D. Sweet Flutes

White Eagle Farms

Woodcock Refrigeration Co., Inc.

Wreaths Across America

Churches and Religious Organizations:

Amazing Grace Church - Enfield

Archdiocese of Hartford Annual Appeal

Calvary Presbyterian Church

Community of Christ Church - East Windsor

Congregational Church of Somers

Congregational Church of Somersville Congregational Church of West Suffield

Copper Hill United Methodist Women

Cornerstone Church

Enfield American Baptist Church

Enfield Congregational Church

First Church of Christ Congregational - Suffield

Faith Baptist Church

Felician Sisters

Hazardville United Methodist Church

Holy Family First Communion Class/CCD Program

Holy Family Church / St. Vincent de Paul

Holy Trinity Church - Enfield

Little Sisters of the Poor

Mary, Gate of Heaven Parish

Mount Carmel Women's Auxilliary

Ministries of Love and Hope, Inc.

New Life Church

New Day Church

Sacred Heart Church - Suffield Second Baptist Church - Enfield

St. Bernard's Church / St. Vincent de Paul

St. Catherine / St. Phillip's Community -

Broad Brook

St. Jeanne Jugan Parish St. Joseph Residence and Residents - Enfield

St. Martha Church - Enfield St. Mary's / St. Robert Bellarmine Church

St. Marianne Cope Parish - Broad Brook

St. Patrick's Church St. Raymond of Penafort Parish

Sun Life Church - Enfield United Methodist Church of Enfield

West Suffield Congregational Church

Schools: ERfC Educational Resources for Children -

Enfield Enrico Fermi High School, Faculty, Clubs,

Societies Enfield High School Students, Faculty, Clubs

Enfield High School Culinary Department

Enfield Montessori School Enfield Teachers Association

Joshua Center School

JFK Middle School

The Loomis Chaffee School

Riley School of Dance

Somers High School / Faculty, Clubs, Societies St. Martha School

Suffield Academy Suffield High School, Students, Clubs, Societies

Civic Organizations: Allied Community Resources

America's Charities Austin Brook Sportsmen's Association

Enfield Fire Departments **Enfield Food Shelf**

Enfield Travel Basketball Association Friends of Library - Warehouse Point North Thompsonville Firemen

Benevolent Association

Girl Scout Troop - Enfield Girl Scout Troop 965 - Suffield

State of CT, Department of Correction Stateline Senior Services - Somers Thompsonville Fire Department

Town of Enfield

Town of Enfield, AFSME Local 1029

Town of Enfield, Municipal Employees Women's Club of Suffield

Women's Club of Enfield

Fraternal Organizations:

America's Charities

American Legion, Post #80 Tanguay Magill American Legion, John Maciolek Post 154

Amvets. Post #18 - Enfield Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 52

Enfield Lions Club, Inc. Enfield Police Explorers

Fidelity Charitable

Hartford Aircraft Local IAMAW AFL-CIO #743

Knights of Columbus, Council 50 - Enfield Knights of Columbus, Council 14600 - Enfield

Knights of Columbus, Council 26 - Windsor

Locks Knights of Columbus, Council 4303 - Somers Loval Order of the Moose. Thompsonville

Lodge #1525

Laureate Tau Sorority Network for Good

North Central CT Lawyers Association

Rotary Club of Suffield Rotary Club of Enfield

Women's Fellowship - Suffield

Windsor Locks Lions Club Woman of the Moose, Thompsonville

Chapter 1302 United Way of Central and NE CT United Way of SW Pennsylvania

Foundations:

Aetna Foundation - Matching Grants Antonacci Family Foundation

Allied Printing Charitable Foundation Bank of America Charitable Foundation

Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation

Carris Corporate Foundation, Inc.

Charities Aid Foundation of America Cyber Grants, Inc.

Estate of Stephen Gemski Foundation

Fidelity Charitable Foundation Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

KSD Charitable Foundation Meyer Family Living Trust

Reid and Reige Foundation, Inc. The Hartford Travelers / CyberGrants

TJX Foundation United Way of Central and NE CT

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

★ WE CAN NOT EXIST WITHOUT YOUR HELP! THANK YOU! ★



THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS & CONTRIBUTORS



HUNGER Has No Season

WHO ARE WE?

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

WHERE ARE WE?

We are located at 28 Prospect Street • Enfield, CT 06082

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

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK



FACTS

We have gone from serving **15,625** meals in **1992** to **90,164** meals in 2019, while 77,180 snack items were prepared for children in Educational Resources for Children (ERfC) programs. Food for **52.876** meals was provided for home consumption.

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

For information, contact Priscilla Brayson at pbelf@aol.com.

Dinners are served, free of charge, **Sunday** through **Friday** from 4 - 5 P.M. and on Saturday from 11 - 12:30 P.M. Various churches and organizations provide 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 businesses in North Central Connecticut throughout the year.

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

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

Volunteers are needed to help with the transportation of food and supplies, stocking shelves, food preparation, cooking, serving and cleanup.