

Neighbors In Need

Summer 2019

Bringing healthy food to those in need for more than 35 years

Food for Relief and Recovery Project

Our Board

Officers:

President Jorge Collado
Vice President Claire Ross
Treasurer Brenda Cronin
Secretary Lisa Smith

Board of Directors:

Ben Kellman
Lori St.Cyr
Rob Thomas
Emily Strong

Advisory Council:

Fernando Alonso
Priscilla Bartle
Bob Behrens
LuAnne Bonanno
Bill Buck
Brian Carmichael
Janet Clarke
Rachel Combs
Rev. Gabriella Garcia
Zoe Hastings
Rejeanne Keeley
Jean Kooken
Linda Piette
Karen Purtschert
Glenn Rogers
Catherine Rosen
Maureen Smith
Ed Warnshuis

Executive Director:

Linda Zimmerman

Photography

Gaby Martello
Rebecca Martello
Lisa Smith
Linda Zimmerman



On Thursday, September 13, 2018 pockets of Lawrence, Andover and North Andover were rocked by explosions related to the over pressurization of gas lines owned by Columbia Gas. Neighbors in Need scrambled to make sure that we met the needs of our clients in the affected communities by providing additional food that could be easily cooked by those who were with

out gas. The crisis also exposed a number of barriers our clients in the affected areas face in cooking the food we provide them. Even with the recovery efforts, some of our clients are still struggling and must choose between purchasing food or diapers instead of small appliances or tools that would make cooking easier. Others have been permanently relocated and need help with basic kitchen tools in their new residences. In May of this year, Neighbors in Need was awarded a \$30,000 grant from the Essex County Community Foundation to help remove these cooking barriers and to bring more food to our 3 food pantries in the gas impacted areas. After completing a survey to better understand the range of issues and interest in assistance, we will use grant funds to provide more food and to distribute small appliances such as crock pots, toasters and blenders to clients at these pantries. We will work with a nutritionist to develop new recipes using food available at the pantries and to start a cooking club or to hold cooking classes. We believe this assortment of resources and tools will help our clients make better use of the food we serve and move forward more quickly in the recovery process.



Volunteers distribute food in three food pantries serving clients affected by the gas crisis (from left to right—198 S. Broadway, Lawrence, 297 South. Union in Lawrence & Andover Senior Center)



Neighbors In Need fights hunger locally by distributing healthy food at 13 Food Pantries strategically located in the neighborhoods of Greater Lawrence. 9 of these pantries are open to the public. NIN also helps hungry infants and infants with diaper need, by providing caregivers formula, diapers and other necessities for children under the age of 5 at the Diaper Pantry in our Lawrence office.

Helping Hands



First Church Methuen, Methuen Exchange Club, the Regional Exchange Club recently came to the rescue when our Methuen Pantry's Freezer went on the blink and they purchased a replacement. Thank you and thanks to **Rev. Bill Ingraham** Senior Pastor First Church Methuen, & **Ken Peck**, lead Pantry volunteer.

Greater Lawrence Technical School's Interact Club hosted a car wash and raised \$200 for NIN! Here Linda Zimmerman, NIN Executive Director accepts a donation check from GLTS Interact Club President, NankMary Delgado and Faculty Advisor, Chris Cyr.



Andover Mums Facebook group, Havurat Shalom, Preserve at Emerald Pines and Communities Together Lenten Undies Sunday all donated diapers to help stock our pantry.

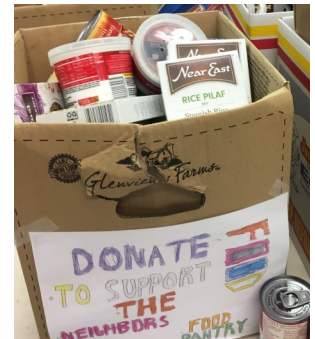
South Church Summer of Service youth spent three weeks volunteering in our food pantries in July. Over 30 great kids contributed such good work at NIN during this year's SOS!



Thanks **Katie Holden** and The UNH chapter of Alpha Phi Omega for this amazing donation of 1,970 feminine hygiene products! Our Diaper Pantry clients greatly appreciate these personal items.



#TeamNeighborsInNeed and Philmont2019—a North Andover Scout Troop participated in May's Walk for Hunger. Thanks to all who donated to our teams. We raised almost \$1,000 for NIN!



Ballard Vale Church, Community Day Charter School, Emerald Pines, Infinite Electronics, IRS Andover, Newcomers and Neighbors Empty Nesters, Regency Methuen, Temple Emanuel Pre-School, St. Pauls Church and many others donated much needed food this spring and summer.

Andover Postal Carriers collected 8,000 pounds of food for Neighbors in Need during their annual Post Office Food Drive in May. A crew of fabulous volunteers helped sort the food at our Warehouse.



The Saving Bank Foundation awarded us a grant to support our food pantry work! We're grateful!

On June 28, Boston 25 featured NIN in their Andover ZipTrip broadcast at Town Park. And encouraged their television audience to donate cereal for our food pantries at the event.





Oh what a night!

Soup's On 2019 was a tremendous success raising more than \$60,000 for Neighbors in Need! Thanks to all of you: attendees, donors, sponsors, small businesses, potters and restaurants that made this evening so wonderful!



NIN Board President, Jorge Collado and NIN Board Treasurer, Brenda Cronin



Supporters Christina & Phil Berthelsen (top) with friends Paul and Teresa D'Amore.



Jaime Cadavid, (middle) NIN Pantry Coordinator, and wife (left), Diane, with long-time volunteer, Margaret Stevens.



Volunteers from First Church Methuen, help set the tables for the Gala. (from left to right) Wayne Newton, Cindy Baggeroer, Bob Newton, and Ken Peck.



Alex Shea Will was our auctioneer extraordinaire!



Steven Velasquez led a volunteer team to make Soup's On Appetizers.

Special thanks to our 2019 Soup's On! Committee: Claire Ross (Chair), Julie Brady, Rachel Combs, Donna Kelley, Gabrielle Martello, Cindy Parnagian, Lisa Smith, Emily Strong, and Deb Turturici. Also thanks to Amy Joyall, Jan Holden, and Aggie Vasques (Floor Managers) and our youth servers from South Church, and Si Se Puedes. To all of the many other volunteers who helped with this event — thank you, thank you, thank you!

Endings & Beginnings...

NIN says a fond fare well and good luck to Board Members Lorie Mendoza and Rev. Will Green. We also say good bye to our Merrimack College Community Engagement Fellow Gaby Martello who graduated in May and Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School student Brianna Marcario, who had been working in the office weekly since November.

From left to right: Lorie Mendoza, Will Green, Gaby Martello, and Brianna Marcario



We are excited to welcome a new member to our Board. Ben Kellman is a retired shop teacher, a yoga instructor and the President of Havurat Shalom in Andover. Ben, we are glad you're here!



Contact us:

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 447
Lawrence, MA 01842

Office Location:


60 Island St.,
Suite 216-East
Lawrence, MA

Phone: 978-685-8321

Email: neighborsinneed@verizon.net

Website: www.needfood.org

 Like us on Facebook

 Follow us on Instagram

 **amazon smile**
You shop. Amazon gives.

Choose Neighbors in Need as
your Amazon Smile Charity



Neighbors in Need

P. O. Box 447

Lawrence, MA 01842-0947

NONPROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

LAWRENCE, MA

PERMIT NO. 12

Bringing healthy food to those in need for over 35 years!

Neighbors in Need is now hiring. For more information please see our website: www.needfood.org.



How Can You Help?

We are inundated with images of hunger and poverty, making it difficult to believe that one individual can have an impact. But you CAN help, right in your community. The problems are daunting, but with your help Neighbors in Need can continue making a difference!

Volunteer Your Time

Neighbors in Need is a volunteer driven organization. Volunteers are welcome to serve in our office, at our pantries and in our warehouse. Currently, we need:

- Help distributing food at the Greater Lawrence Health Center Mobil Markets Saturday, August 24 and Saturday, September 28 from 8 a.m.–Noon
- Soup's On 2020 Committee members – it's not too early to start thinking about next year!

For more info on volunteering or holding a food or diaper drive email Lisa Smith at lisa@needfood.org or Linda Zimmerman at linda@needfood.org. Or call us at 978-685-8321.

Organize a Drive!

Help us serve more clients by organizing a food, diaper or infant & children's clothing drive in your school, church, neighborhood, business or organization.

For our *Infant Pantry*, we need

- Large size diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6)
- Similac Advance powder formula (the blue label)
- Baby wipes
- Baby cereal or baby food

For our *Food Pantries*, we need:

- Boxed cereal
- Shelf stable milk
- Canned beans (not baked beans)
- Pasta & sauce
- Rice—Canilla or Carolina

