

A Publication of The Open Door/Cape Ann Food Pantry

We are a nonprofit, community-supported, charitable organization committed to feeding the hungry of Cape Ann.

Fall/Winter 2008

## OUR MISSION

To alleviate hunger in the communities of Cape Ann.

We accomplish this by providing free meals and food in a hospitable environment, providing advocacy on behalf of the disadvantaged, and providing job-skills training and job placement through our programs.

## WHAT WE DO

Free Emergency Groceries

Community Meals

Food Rescue

After-School Snacks

Summer Lunches

Food Stamp Application Assistance

Low-Cost Items through Second Glance Resale Shop

Job Training

Free Clothing & Household Items through Referral

Holiday Meal Baskets

Collaborative Nutrition Programs

Community Service Programs

Nutrition Outreach & Education

Mobile Market

Senior Brown Bag Market

SERVE New England

## Community Investment to Meet the Need

Winston Churchill once said, "There is no finer investment for any community than putting milk into babies." This community's caring investment in the programs of The Open Door/Cape Ann Food Pantry puts milk into babies and puts food directly onto the tables of our neighbors who struggle to make ends meet.

We use the strength of this investment to combine our traditional hunger-relief programs with innovative new strategies that help connect families to good nutrition. In a time of economic decline, our organization is a bustling food resource center for people who find themselves in need.

Additional services slated for 2009 include:

1. From November 2008 through March 2009, people may access food at the pantry once every 7 days instead of every 14 days.
2. The Open Door community-meals program will add a Sunday supper beginning in January. Suppers will be served from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Van service will be available for residents of Gloucester.
3. The weekly Mobile Market at Pathways for Children has been extended through the winter months. Parents of children enrolled at Pathways will be eligible to participate in the market.
4. A new Mobile Market site, offering free fruits and vegetables, will be placed in a public housing neighborhood within our service area.

### Traditional hunger-relief programs...



Leigh Ann Dimeo, a volunteer, offers a variety of food choices to a pantry client.

### ...combined with new strategies.



Fresh fruits and vegetables are distributed weekly at four Mobile Markets on Cape Ann: Riverdale, Willowood, Kitefield Road, and Pathways for Children. New site in 2009.

## From the desk of the Executive Director

With the economy being as it was, we knew the Cape Ann Food Pantry was facing the potential of greater need for food assistance around the holidays. We started early to raise the funds and get the turkey commitments needed to help meet the anticipated increase in requests for turkey meal baskets. We worked with the Greater Boston Food Bank, local donors and wholesalers to pull together the birds and all the fixings it takes to set a festive Thanksgiving table.



It was our goal to provide a turkey and all the fixings to every eligible household making a request. We were prepared with a backup plan of providing a gift card (a plastic turkey, if you will) in the event that we didn't have enough birds on site to meet the need.

And, then came distribution week.

We did not need to use the gift cards. There were enough turkeys complete with potatoes, carrots, squash, apples, stuffing, cranberry, and gravy for every eligible household that requested a holiday meal basket. We distributed turkey meal baskets at all four of our Mobile Market sites on Cape Ann: Pathways for Children, Willowood Gardens, Riverdale Park, and Kitefield Road. We also provided turkeys for our food pantry clients right up until 4 p.m. the day before Thanksgiving.

2008 Thanksgiving Meal Baskets distributed: 730  
2007 Thanksgiving Meal Baskets distributed: 564  
2006 Thanksgiving Meal Baskets distributed: 473

In addition to the turkey meal baskets, our annual food drive attracted 115 groups and individuals who collected food to help keep the the Cape Ann Food Pantry shelves stocked this winter.

2008: 26,032 pounds collected in Thanksgiving food drive.  
2007: 23,535 pounds collected in Thanksgiving food drive.  
2006: 21,837 pounds collected in Thanksgiving food drive.

Unfortunately, our work does not stop with the holidays. We provide food for families every week of the year. We need your continued support to carry out our simple mission of FOOD. Every dollar that you are able to give helps put food on the table of your neighbors in need.

The services of the Cape Ann Food Pantry have grown out of the generous heart of this community. We could not do what we do each year without a little help from everyone.



Julie LaFontaine, Executive Director

## MOBILE MARKET EXPANDS TO MEET LOCAL NEED. . . AGAIN

A new Mobile Market site was added this summer at **Pathways for Children**. This popular program is now available at four convenient sites on Cape Ann:

- Riverdale Park
- Willowood Gardens
- Pathways for Children
- Kitefield Road in Rockport

Mobile Markets provide registered low-income families with FREE fruits and vegetables in a market-style environment.



## THE GOOD FOOD FARM

New this year to the Mobile Markets was an interactive exhibit designed to encourage children to learn where their food is grown.

Activities include:

- Gathering eggs from nests of sweet-smelling hay.
- Digging for potatoes, carrots, onions, beets, and turnips.
- Counting apples from the tree.



The Mobile Markets and the Good Food Farm have been funded in part by grants from the North Shore Community Health Network, Project Bread, the McCarthy Foundation, North Shore United Way, and the Forest Foundation.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE  
TO READ MORE ABOUT:**

PROGRAMS  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES  
RESOURCE GUIDE

[www.capeannfoodpantry.org](http://www.capeannfoodpantry.org)

The Open Door  
Cape Ann Food Pantry  
28 Emerson Avenue  
Gloucester, MA 01930

phone: 978-283-6776  
fax: 978-282-9684  
e-mail: [info@foodpantry.org](mailto:info@foodpantry.org)

## FROM THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY:

1978—2008 Celebrating 30 Years

- 1978:** Cape Ann Food “Bank” is formed with the leadership of Action, Rockport Congregational Church, and Cape Ann Interfaith Commission.
- 1983:** The Open Door, a place of hospitality, is formed under the leadership of Wellspring House.
- 1985:** Food pantry joins the Greater Boston Food Bank. Food pantry begins receiving USDA Commodities.
- 1986:** Food pantry and Open Door merge to become The Open Door/Cape Ann Food Pantry, Inc. Food pantry participates in the Walk for Hunger.
- 1993:** Food pantry moves to 28 Emerson Avenue. Buck-A-Bag and SERVE programs are added.
- 1995:** Open Door meals move to 28 Emerson Avenue.
- 1997:** First cargo truck is purchased.
- 1998:** Second Glance moves to storefront location.
- 2001:** New refrigerated truck is purchased. Fifteen-passenger van is donated. First Empty Bowl Dinner is held.
- 2002:** Summer lunch program is launched. Holiday Meal Basket program is launched. First annual Autumn Breakfast is held.
- 2003:** Food stamp application assistance is added. Second Glance moves to Pond Road. Formal community service program is launched. Formal job training program is launched.
- 2004:** Three new summer lunch sites are added. Food rescue program is formalized with weights and measures.
- 2005:** Mobile Market, a free farmers’ market for limited-income households, is launched at Riverale Park. Helen Muise Community Service Award is created.
- 2006:** Brown Bag Market, a free grocery program for seniors, is launched in Gloucester. A new Mobile Market site is added at Willowood.
- 2007:** A Brown Bag Market site is added in Rockport. A new Mobile Market site is added at Kitefield Rd. Forrest Clark Founders’ Award is created.
- 2008:** Two new summer lunch sites are added. Pathways for Children is added as the first school-based Mobile Market site.

## NOTEWORTHY...



**SUEZ LNG** provided a one-time matching donation of **\$5,000** to help raise money for the Holiday Meal Basket program. This generous gift helped raise more than **\$14,000** at The Open Door/Cape Ann Food Pantry’s popular annual Autumn Breakfast in October.

**Century 21 of Gloucester** provided the Cape Ann Food Pantry with funds for **Holiday Meal Baskets**.



**Fallon Community Health Plan** raised **\$2,500** for the Cape Ann Food Pantry at their annual golf tournament.

The **Good Time Favorites** crew at **North Shore 104.9**



teamed up with the pantry for a fourth year in a row to host a food collection site at **Shaw’s Supermarket** on Eastern Avenue. With the help of many volunteers, we collected a record **3,160 lbs.**



**Food for Friends:** The paper turkeys you can purchase at Gloucester **Stop & Shop** help raise money to directly support the programs of the Cape Ann Food Pantry.



**Comcast. Totally Comcast!** The Comcast Foundation provided the Cape Ann Food Pantry with a special grant to help feed hungry people.

### TALKIN’ TURKEY

Bill Stevens, the food pantry manager, unloads turkeys from the walk-in freezer to help pack Holiday Meal Baskets for Thanksgiving.

Since 1987, Bill’s hands have lifted thousands of pounds of turkey. This year we provided 730 Thanksgiving turkeys with all the fixings.

Photo provided courtesy of Cape Ann Beacon/Ian Hurley



# YES! I want to support the work of The Open Door/Cape Ann Food Pantry

\$35     \$50     \$75     \$100     \$150     OTHER: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This year many have already sent an early financial contribution to help meet the holiday need. THANK YOU!  
Please read the newsletter for a full report on how we are providing food for limited-income families all year round.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Please bill my credit card.**

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make my donation in the name of the person listed below:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

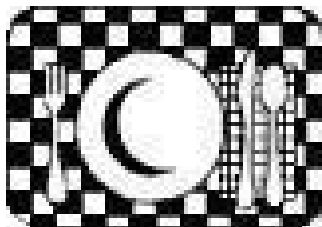
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## MAKE A GIFT IN SOMEONE'S NAME

Just tell us who you would like to honor with a gift to The Open Door/Cape Ann Food Pantry, and we will send them a card to let them know that a donation has been made in their name.

*Please send your check to: The Open Door/Cape Ann Food Pantry, 28 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930*



## The Open Door Cape Ann Food Pantry

28 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930

*Providing Food and Hospitality*

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
GLOUCESTER, 01930  
PERMIT NO. 82

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED