Makes its Debut

Mobile Market Game-Changer

When parked at a Mobile Market, the vehicle of choice for mobile market Re:Community’s Mobile Market Farmers Truck is here—and is the new face of community health. “I think it’s a game-changer for people where the live and learn,” said North Shore Community College President LaFontaine. “This kind of investment connects people to the neighborhoods, schools, and North Shore Community College. It may not be that well known, but food security is a huge challenge for community college students,” said North Shore Community College President LaFontaine. “Food insecurity is unfortunately that challenge has gotten bigger because of the pandemic.”

The Mobile Market program was first launched at Winnisquam in Gloucester in 2005. By reducing barriers to access such as transportation, cost of food, nutrition education, and social stigma, the program alleviates the impact of poor nutrition that leaves many at risk for devastating health outcomes. The program provides people with up to 20 pounds of fresh produce, fresh protein, and produce choices at no cost.

The program serves people with COVID-19, a boost in spirit at seeing old friends, and protein choices at no cost. The Mobile Market has been a member of the kitchen team since 2004. Since 2014, the Healthy Choice Easy Choice initiative has transformed less popular and overpriced veggies into tasty, nutritious dishes, both partially and fully prepared.

Today, the kitchen prepares 160 meals per day Monday through Friday (with extras prepared on Friday to feed people through the weekend). Meals can be picked-up or delivered depending on a client’s needs. The kitchen also adopted new degradable containers for transporting meals this fall.

In addition to preparing daily meals, the team makes meals for agencies partners including weekly soups for the Rose Baker Senior Center and take-home lunches, and weekly meals for the North Shore Health Project. Any changes or returns to in-person dining will be announced widely through The Open Door website, FOODPANTRY.org, social media accounts (@theopendoorma on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) and various channels.

To inquire further, call 978-283-6776. •
Dear Friends,

As we stand at the gate of a new year, we take a moment to pause and reflect. This year was jam-packed with big changes and innovations in our programs and services to increase access, choice, and food equity for people who needed it the most. With your help, we implemented a new online ordering system, expanded our fleet of vehicles to support deliveries and outreach, put the Farmers Truck on the road, moved the needle on our capital building project, and more.

The pandemic has made our mission clearer and our connections dearer. With your support, we will come out on the other side of this pandemic more capable than ever of meeting people where they are and alleviating the impact of hunger in our community.

Thank you for stepping up to help keep people fed, remove barriers to access, and strengthen our community through these turbulent days. In uncertain times, people need a stable place to turn for hope and help to put food on the table. Your financial support makes it possible for us to be just such a place for people in our community.

We still need your help! No one can stop hunger alone, but together we can put fresh, high quality, much needed food on the tables of people still feeling the impact of a struggling economy. Please donate today.

Sincerely,

Julie Hazen LaFontaine
President and CEO

The Open Door Capital Campaign Update

With 81 percent of our $2.25 Million goal secured, we hope to break ground on our Capital Campaign project this spring, if the supply chain allows. The project will build a much-needed, larger and modernized production kitchen and Nutrition Center.

Donate to support the project at FOODPANTRY.org.

Donate TODAY to help alleviate the impact of hunger in our community.

FOODPANTRY.org/donate

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A pledge of 12 monthly payments makes you a GOOD EGG! Choose MONTHLY frequency when you donate online.

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