



The Open Door
Julie LaFontaine, President, and CEO
28 Emerson Ave.,
Gloucester, MA 01930

Media Contact: Kelsey Richards
Email: kelsey.richards@foodpantry.org
Phone: 978-283-6776 x 226

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Media Advance

The Open Door Debuts SG Home Thrift Shop Expansion

GLOUCESTER – Second Glance, Thrift Store of The Open Door, extends its footprint on Pond Road this fall with SG Home, a furniture and home décor expansion primed to wow shoppers with one-of-a-kind, high quality thrifted finds.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on Saturday, November 5 at 9 a.m. to unveil the newest extension of the store at 2 Pond Road in Gloucester, where Mahaneys Uechi Karate Academy previously operated. Doors will open for shopping at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. The new building will operate in tandem with Second Glance's existing location in the Pond Road Plaza.

"The Open Door is rooted in community, and it is in that spirit Second Glance has continued to grow. More than a thrift store, Second Glance is a place where old friends come together to shop and give back," President and CEO Julie LaFontaine said. "Our patrons feel good knowing their dollars and donations put food on the table for local people who need help getting groceries."

"Shopping second-hand is more than a fun way to find unique pieces, it's becoming a necessity for more and more people amid inflation, rising food costs, and concern about a recession," Director of Thrift Operations Susan Zwart said. "If you need a high quality, affordable dining room table, or a couch, or linens that are also stylish, you can get

those things at Second Glance. You can also feel good knowing your dollars are going back into our community and feeding people during hard times.”

SG Home will feature coastal and farmhouse inspired furniture, home décor for every room in the house including pillows, linens, vases, and other decorative items, as well as a selection of art. Clothing, accessories, jewelry, handbags, shoes, books, games, and a smaller selection of home décor will continue to be sold at Second Glance’s main building in the Pond Road Plaza as well.

Second Glance and SG Home will be open Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with seasonal hours on Sundays.

A cornerstone program of The Open Door, Second Glance is expected to generate 25% of the nonprofit’s \$4.5 million cash operating budget this year. The shop also provides referrals for free clothing and basic household goods for those who need a little extra help, and recycles clothing and metals that are not in sellable condition.

Last year, Second Glance honored 299 referrals providing nearly \$20,000 in free clothing, furniture, and household items to people who needed a hand and recycled more than 30 tons of textiles and metals.

If you need help getting clothing or basic household furniture, small appliances, or kitchen items, visit [FOODPANTRY.org/referral](https://www.foodpantry.org/referral) to request a referral appointment.

For those who would like to donate, same-day appointments are available at [FOODPANTRY.org/booknow](https://www.foodpantry.org/booknow). Donation appointments allow staff and volunteers to assist donors and manage inventory.

Members of the media who wish to attend the ribbon cutting are asked to RSVP by emailing kelsey.richards@foodpantry.org.

About The Open Door

The mission of The Open Door is to alleviate the impact of hunger in our community. We use practical strategies to connect people to good food, to advocate on behalf of those in need, and to engage others in the work of building food security.

Founded in 1978, The Open Door is a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit and community food resource center for low-income residents of Gloucester, Rockport, Manchester, Essex, Ipswich, Hamilton, Boxford, Rowley, Topsfield, and Wenham. **In 2021, The Open Door helped stabilize the lives and health of 8,516 people from 4,176 households through the distribution of 1.83 million pounds of food.**

For more information, visit [FOODPANTRY.org](https://www.foodpantry.org).

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