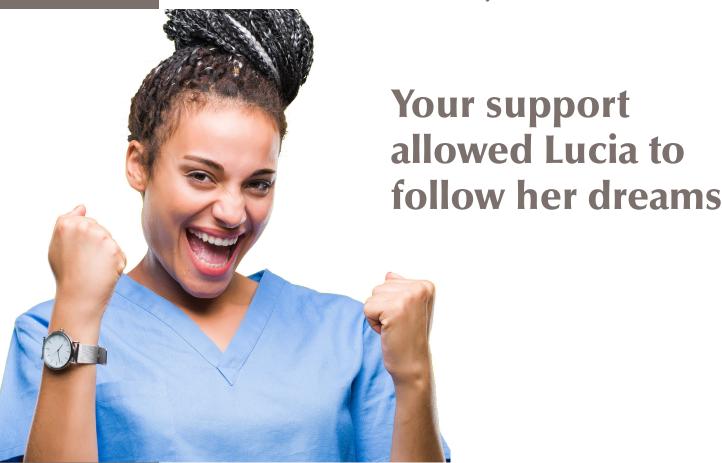
Fall Winter **2019** BeverlyBootstraps EMBRACE · ÉDUCATE · EMPOWER

FOOD MTHOUGHT

Strengthening our community one neighbor at a time.



Lucia's* lifelong dream was to work in the field of medicine and started her journey to become a nurse in high school in her home country. However, when both her parents died, she couldn't afford to continue her education and was forced to put that dream on hold. Years later, she and her husband were able to immigrate to the United States, and although she spoke three languages, neither knew English. So they began taking ESOL classes at Beverly Bootstraps in addition to getting food from the Food Pantry.

The teachers here encouraged Lucia to apply to a local hospital to be a house-keeper. Once her English improved enough, she got the job, but knew she wanted to do something more. She soon came back to Beverly Bootstraps for help from our tutors to study for the entrance exam to the Certified Nursing Assistant program at North Shore Community College. In spite of many obstacles, including not having a car and some language challenges, she was able to earn her CNA license.

Once Lucia started working in a nursing home, she and her husband were happily able to stop coming to the Food Pantry. While working with the elderly and listening to their life stories, Lucia knew she would have regrets if she didn't continue

(cont'd on pg 2 - *name changed and stock photo used for client privacy)

BECAUSE OF YOU...

Follow your dreams (from cover)

toward her career goal. She again came back for help studying for the Nursing entrance exam and passed. But to get into a nursing program she needed to pass a reading exam in English.

The first time she took the test she failed, but after studying 5 months with us and on her own, she passed the test! Lucia said, "This was one of the best moments in my life! My dream of becoming a nurse was coming true."

Lucia is doing well in all of her classes and continues to get support from Beverly Bootstraps though the Career and College Readiness program. Her message to all is "Do not give up on your dreams. You can do it."

With your support, we were able to help Lucia realize her dream. Thank you.

New box truck has arrived

Thanks to two very generous donors, we now have a new refrigerated box truck to assist us in meeting the growing needs of our community. This new truck will allow us to pick up more food at one time and will also increase staff efficiency as the food pickups will now be a one-person job, instead of two.



More pantry hours and food for kids and seniors

Due to high demand, we've added a Wednesday evening Food Pantry distribution time. Clients will now have 2 evening options: Tuesday and Wednesday from 5:00pm - 6:45pm.

The Weekend Food Program, which has provided local elementary school children with food to sustain them throughout the weekend when they are not receiving free or reduced lunch at school, is now also available to Middle School students.

In addition, we have made our Senior Mobile Market, which brings free, fresh produce and staple items to the Beverly Senior Center, year round. In the past, it was available from late Fall to Spring, but to maximize the help we provide seniors who often live on limited, fixed incomes, this food is now brought to them year round.

New Programs Added

With the generous support of our community and increased efficiency in staff time due to our new truck, we have been able to add several new programs:

Grab 'n Go Bags

Our area has a great free Community Meals program, run by many of the local houses of worship which provide a nightly dinner to our local homeless and transient population.



Now, to fill the lunchtime meal-gap that they face, we offer a daily bag of tasty, protein and nutrient rich snacks.

College Food Pantry

So many college students face food insecurity but don't go to food pantries for help because there is a stigma associated. To help counter this, we have started a weekly Food Pantry distribution time specifically for current Montserrat College of Art and Endicott College students who have a current school ID.

GETTING INVOLVED

These are just a few of you who have gotten involved recently - thank you!



Single Source filled backpacks with new schools supplies for the Back-to-School backpack program



Maureen Kotarski volunteering at the Thrift Shop Yard Sale Table during Beverly Homecoming's Lobsterfest



New Salem State University students volunteering during the First Year Day of Service



Senator Joan Lovely delivers donation from Diaper Drive



Ariel Greenberg volunteering at the Thrift Shop during Homecoming week



The Renda Family purchased snacks and came in to build snack bags for families with children in our Food Pantry



(I to r) Staff members Sam and Don having fun with volunteers Tara Savoie and Paul Swaim at Mobile Market

YOUR IMPACT OVER THE LAST YEAR

With your support, together we've been able to...



That's

12,850

learning hours in our HiSET and ESOL classrooms





increase in number of visits for Food Assistance programs from last year





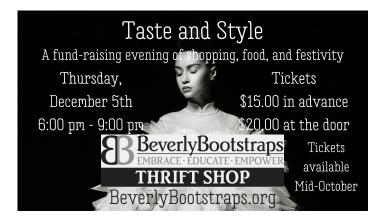
HOW YOU CAN HELP

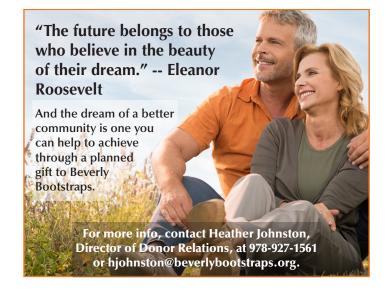
Fun ways to give back

Want to help in a unique and fun way? Consider hosting an event to benefit Beverly Bootstraps. Here are just a few ideas:

- Party with a purpose host a holiday gathering and ask guests to bring a donation for Beverly Bootstraps instead of a grab gift.
- Be a neighbor, feed a neighbor host a neighborhood pot luck and ask everyone to bring food for each other as well as some for those in need.
- Bells for Bootstraps instead of giving gifts to employees or clients, donate to Beverly Bootstraps in their name.
- Denim days allow employees to wear jeans to work for a small donation to Beverly Bootstraps.
- Eat in for hunger ask employees to eat lunch in the office and donate the money they would have spent going out to lunch.
- Winter Warmer clothing drive ask employees to bring in gently used, clean warm winter outerwear to donate to the Thrift Shop.
- Management weigh in Weigh your management team and use that as your goal for pounds of food to collect for the Food Pantry.

As always, please let us know if you're planning an event. Contact Heather Johnston at 978-927-1561 or hjohnston@beverlybootstraps.org with any questions.





Thinking about giving back during the holidays?

We have lots of options!

- Host a Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Donate to one of our Thanksgiving Food Drives (11/2 and 11/5)
- Donate gifts to the Adopt-a-Family holiday gift program
- Make Holiday Breakfast Bags
- Make Kid's Snack Bags

For more info, contact Heather Johnston at 978-927-1561 or hjohnston@beverlybootstraps.org.





OFFICE & SERVICES

35 Park Street, Beverly M -Th 8:30am-7:00pm F 8:30am-4:00pm PHONE: 978-927-1561 BeverlyBootstraps.org

THRIFT SHOP

198 Rantoul Street, Beverly M -Th 9:30am-7:00pm F 9:30am-5:00pm Sat 9:30am-4:00pm PHONE: 978-921-4710

FOOD PANTRY

M 10:00am–12:15pm Tu 5:00pm-6:45pm W 10:00am-12:15pm and 5:00pm--6:45pm Th, F 10:00am-12:15pm

This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT **ORGANIZATION** U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 88 BEVERLY, MA 01915

GET INVOLVED LOCALLY THIS FALL

Attend an event

11/2 - Citywide Food Drive 11/5 - Election Day Food Drive 12/1 - Beverly Holiday Parade Walking Food Drive 12/5 - Taste & Style at the Thrift Shop

Donate food for Thanksgiving meals

Go to our website for a list of items needed

Volunteer

Groups/Families: purchase and make kids' snack bags or help in the Thrift Shop Adults: tutor adults or youth or prepare taxes through the EITC program

Host a Food, Fund or **Clothing Drive**

See our website to learn how

Financial donations and donations to the Thrift Shop are always needed.

Thank you for giving back locally!

For more info, see BeverlyBootstraps.org, visit our online event calendar and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.