

Fall  
Winter  
2021

**B Beverly Bootstraps**  
EMBRACE · EDUCATE · EMPOWER

# FOOD *for* THOUGHT

*Strengthening our community one neighbor at a time.*



**With a little  
help and a lot of  
perseverance**

Tamera\* has been a Beverly Bootstraps client off and on for over 10 years. She is a single mom of three school-aged children and has proudly persevered through many challenges. Not only did she attend community college while living in transitional housing with her children, she also was able to graduate with a nursing degree and start her career at a local nursing home.

However, even with a full-time job, things were still tight on her entry level salary. She heard that Beverly Bootstraps was the place to go for help and made an appointment with a Case Manager. We signed her up for SNAP benefits and she also started visiting our Food Pantry, especially at the end of the month after her SNAP benefits ran out. Her Case Manager also provided her with vouchers to the Thrift Shop so she could get clothing for her children. Later, she knew just where to turn when she needed assistance with a utility bill.

Over the years, we've helped provide her children with backpacks and holiday gifts and even sent two of them to summer camp. With just a little help, Tamera had been getting by for years.

(cont'd on pg 2)

\*name changed and stock photo used for client privacy

# BECAUSE OF YOU...

## Perseverance (from cover)

However, last winter the nursing home she works at cut everyone's hours almost in half. Desperate for assistance with rent, she turned to us in March. With significantly less income, she wasn't able to come up with the full amount due for February. She had just found a second job but needed help getting caught up. We collaborated with a local funder and together we were able to pay her rental arrears.

Thanks to your generosity, Tamera and her family are stable again and able to stay in their home.

## Expanding help to more towns

Not only did your generous support over the last year and a half provide for thousands of clients in need during the pandemic, but it has also allowed us to continue to work toward our strategic plan of expanding our service area into more towns to help even more people in need. Over the summer, we began serving Essex, Hamilton and Wenham residents in addition to the Beverly and Manchester residents we already served.



While collaborating with Acord Food Pantry in Hamilton to provide Case Management services, we realized that, while the town had a great resource for Food Assistance, it could benefit from the other programs and services we provide. Adding Essex made logical sense because they share a school system with Manchester, who we already served, and we would no longer run into issues, especially with our Back-to-School program where we could serve some students from the combined school system and not others.

In fact, the first program we introduced in these towns was the Back-to-School Backpack program and we look forward to helping children and families in these new communities enjoy the holidays through our Adopt-a-Family holiday gift program.

None of this would have been possible without you and we are eternally grateful

## Mobile Market makes a comeback



We were happy to bring back our Mobile Market program in July this year – albeit a bit

scaled back due to different locations' Covid protocols. Thanks to support from Beverly Hospital, a member of Beth Israel Lahey Health, and Brace Cove Foundation, we have been able to provide residents at Turtle Creek & Turtle Woods and Apple Village with healthy fresh produce on a weekly basis when we bring this free travelling farmers market to their residents. Sylvana\*, a mom of three, says she loves being able to sneak our veggies into things like zucchini bread for her kids.

\*name changed for client privacy

## Backpack program a success

In August we distributed 716 brand new backpacks filled with school supplies. Thank you to all who donated and volunteered to help so many children be prepared for the school year!





# HELPING THOSE IN NEED

## Things are getting back to normal

In early August, the original Food Pantry's lights went back on, it got a deep cleaning, and the shelves were restocked. When the doors reopened to clients, they were happy to see the familiar shopping carts waiting for them to fill with their favorite items.

We are proud to have continued to serve our clients with the food they have desperately needed during this pandemic. While our Food Pantry successfully pivoted, we are overjoyed to have moved back to



the full-choice shopping model for our clients that they all know and love.

Now, in addition to clients being able to choose

their own food as if they were in a grocery store, the Food Pantry hours have been extended to add some more convenience to our clients' lives. We made sure our clients know that there is no need to wait in lines and create crowds when the pantry first opens, because we restock throughout the day to ensure the same great selection regardless of what time they arrive. While masks are still highly recommended in the building, this small piece of normalcy returning is a welcomed relief.

## Now that's dedication

Kathy\* is a single mom who became disenchanted with her dead-end jobs. She realized that her employment prospects were not going to improve without a high school equivalency diploma. A friend recommended our HiSET program to help her prepare for her exams because many other programs have strict attendance requirements. Kathy is unable to commit to a rigid class schedule; she needs to pick up additional hours at work when they are available. Kathy has now passed two of the five required exams for her high school equivalency certification and will soon be taking her third exam. Kathy studies when she can and her tutor understands the many demands on her time. It's not easy to be a working mom. Her life is busy and hectic and noisy. There are times when Kathy grabs her study binder and heads to her car so that she has a quiet place to work with her tutor. In winter, she would dress in her coat, hat and gloves while inside her car to stay warm while using her phone to connect to Zoom. Kathy is truly dedicated to taking steps toward her educational and career goals.

\*name changed for privacy

## Exciting changes in Adult Ed

We are proud to announce that Yvonne van Bodengraven has recently been promoted to Education Supervisor. Her dedication to her students and their educations, her exemplary organization and her planning skills made her the perfect candidate to work with leadership to expand our capabilities within the Adult Education department.



Her goal is to make these important programs available and accessible to even more students while formulating a plan to reinstitute the Career and College Readiness program in the future.

## Calculators add up to success in class

High school students taking advanced math and science classes need a graphing calculator to complete their work, yet some students are unable to afford the \$100-plus expense. In some cases, teachers had "loaners" that could be used in class, but that left students without an option for homework assignments. To solve this problem, Beverly Bootstraps is piloting a new program.



In collaboration with high school math department heads and guidance directors, we were able to provide over 65 calculators to students in need. These calculators are theirs to keep, to be used throughout high school and future educational endeavors.

# YOUR IMPACT OVER THE LAST YEAR

In the last year you've helped...

## Agency Wide



serve

**3871**

individuals



**2051**

households

get  
**\$662,504**  
in tax refunds for  
**329**  
clients



keep



**182**

people safely housed  
through Rental Assistance

distribute



**\$88,531**

of financial assistance  
to clients



**45**

students continue their  
education even though  
classes were fully remote

## Food Assistance

provide

**529,982**



pounds of food through our Food  
Assistance programs - the most we've  
ever distributed in one year

provide



**7,689**

Food Pantry visits

deliver



**780**

bags of food to the  
Beverly Council on  
Aging

deliver



**3,333**

bags of food to senior  
housing facilities

collaborate with Root to provide

**community meals**



and with local churches to  
provide volunteers to package and serve  
community meals

expand

**home delivery**



to include those quarantining and those  
at extreme risk of catching COVID

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

## WHY DONATE STOCK?

 **SAVE UP TO 37% ON YOUR TAXES**



### You don't pay capital gains tax

If you donate your appreciated stock to Beverly Bootstraps and deduct its fair market value as a charitable contribution, you do not need to pay the 15 - 37% capital gains on the potential profits of your stock.



### You donate more

If you sell the stock, you will be required to pay a 15 - 37% capital gains tax on any profit from your original purchase price, leaving you with less money to donate. If you donate the stock to Beverly Bootstraps, we can accept and sell the stock at its full fair market value and pay no taxes on it.



### Stock donations are great for:

- Year-end giving



- Rebalancing your portfolio



- Any time you have stock gains



### I'm interested! Now what?

For more information, call our Director of Development and External Affairs at 978-927-1561 or go to: <https://www.beverlybootstraps.org/donate/#financial>

## Provide a family with Thanksgiving dinner

When there's so much to be thankful for, it feels great to share that with others. If you would like to help your neighbors enjoy a happy Thanksgiving, please sign up to donate to the Fixin's for the Feast Thanksgiving meal program. Fill a bag (or several) with the fixin's for a table full of Thanksgiving sides (see list below) and just



drop it off curbside at 35 Park Street on Saturday, November 13. There is a limited number of bags needed for this program so *sign-up is required* at <https://bit.ly/fixins2021>. This program also fills quickly so please sign up soon.

- French's fried onions • Cranberry sauce • Canned gravy • Chicken broth • Cream of mushroom soup • Instant mashed potatoes (family size) • Canned green beans • Stuffing mix • Cake mix/frosting, brownie mix or quick bread mix

## Think holidays in October

For us at Beverly Bootstraps it's actually a benefit that holiday shopping displays go up right after Halloween! We've been getting ready for the Adopt-a-Family Holiday Gift program and we hope you'll join in the joy of giving by providing holiday gifts to a family in need this year. You can choose the family that speaks to your heart and then shop with their personal wish list. Children in our expanded service area will benefit from this amazing program as well this year.



The link to the family profiles will be emailed to past donors in late October. If you haven't participated before and would like to become a donor, contact our Development Coordinator at [Development@BeverlyBootstraps.org](mailto:Development@BeverlyBootstraps.org). We do expect the program to fill quickly so be sure to choose your family right away!



*save the date*

## BOOTS & BLOOMS GALA

Friday, April 1, 2022 at 6:30pm  
Cruiseport Gloucester



## HOURS

### OFFICE & SERVICES

35 Park Street, Beverly  
PHONE: 978-927-1561  
BeverlyBootstraps.org  
M-Th 8:30am–6:00pm  
F 8:30am–4:00pm

### FOOD PANTRY HOURS

M 10:00am–4:00pm  
T 1:00pm–6:00pm  
W 10:00am–6:00pm  
Th 10:00am–2:00pm

*For Case Management services,  
please fill out form at  
[www.bit.ly/bootstraps\\_help](http://www.bit.ly/bootstraps_help)  
or call the number above.*

### THRIFT SHOP

198 Rantoul Street, Beverly  
PHONE: 978-921-4710  
M-F 9:30am–5:00pm  
Sat 10:00am–3:00pm

## Simply the Best Sale



Come to the Thrift Shop at 198 Rantoul Street in Beverly on Sunday, October 24, from 10am to 4pm to shop the best of the best from our specially curated merchandise. You'll find new and like-new donated items including high end and designer clothing, home essentials and home decor at great prices. Don't miss this

special one-day shopping extravaganza!

## Election Day Food Drive

The Beverly Citywide PTO is hosting the Election Day Food Drive in Beverly again this year. Please bring non-perishable food items to any of the Beverly polling locations on Tuesday, November 2, when you cast your ballot.

## Koutsos Team helps renters

CrossCountry Mortgage's Koutsos Team recently donated funds raised over the past six months – \$50 from every loan closed for a total of \$3000 – to our case management and rental assistance program. The gift will be distributed to those who are at the greatest risk of losing their homes because of the COVID-19 pandemic.



# THE ANNUAL APPEAL IS ON ITS WAY



Look for our annual appeal in your mailbox next month to learn more about Andrea and how YOU can help. The funds raised through this appeal will help Andrea and families like hers get back on their feet and stay safely housed as we head into the winter months.

**Thank you for giving back locally!**

For more info, see [BeverlyBootstraps.org](http://BeverlyBootstraps.org), visit our online event calendar and follow us on  and 

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