

# Community E-Newsletter April 2023

### We couldn't do it without you



Maya\* reached out to us for food assistance at the end of last month after emergency SNAP allotments ended. A few months prior, she had undergone major surgery and stayed home to recover, forcing her to take unpaid leave. Complications after her surgery caused Maya to be out of work longer than she had anticipated. This additional unpaid

time off was more than she had saved for. Maya found herself out of savings, not generating any income, and overdue on her rent.

Sadly, there are many others in the community who are also experiencing similar hardships. Almost 3,000 households in Beverly lost an average of \$163 a month in extra COVID-era benefits (The Boston Globe, 2023). Due to SNAP changes, increases in food prices, and rising heat and electric costs, we saw over 200 more Food Pantry visits in Marchwith 1,480 visits—this was seen within only 17 distribution days.

Beverly Bootstraps helps clients like Maya on a daily basis. They struggle to stay ahead, and then every once in a while, they fall too far behind to recover on their own. Thankfully, with supporters like you, we are here to help with everything from groceries to rental assistance. For Maya, this assistance helped her get back on her feet, and ensured she had food on the table. She is now happily back at work, current on her rent, and continues to utilize our Food Pantry to help make ends meet on her path to self-sufficiency.

Your donation makes a difference to clients like Maya. Please consider donating today or joining our Circle of Hope Monthly Giving program to help provide steady, reliable support to everyone we serve.

Click here to help provide support for clients like Maya >>

<sup>\*</sup>Name changed and stock photo used for client privacy

### **Exciting news**

## **Boots & Blues 2023 Tickets Now On Sale!**

Boots & Blues is Beverly Bootstraps' premier fundraising event of the year. Join us on Thursday, June 1 from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm for a fun-filled night overlooking the Atlantic Ocean at Misselwood. The night will include a live blues band, southern fare, lawn games, cash bar, and an opportunity to help raise funds and hear about the direct impact your support is having on individuals and families in the community.



Whether you participate as a sponsor, or purchase tickets to the event, please know you are making a difference right here in our own community. Click here for more information and to purchase tickets.

## Fun Day, Sunday Shopping Extravaganza

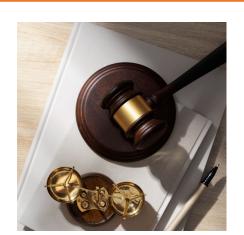
Join us at The Thrift Shop, located at 198 Rantoul St., on Sunday, April 30th, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm for our 3rd Annual Fun Day, Sunday Shopping Extravaganza! Specially selected and unique items will fill the racks and shelves, providing a fun shopping experience! You can feel good about shopping because 100% of the net profits help fund the critical programs of Beverly Bootstraps.



### How you can help

## Auction Items Needed for Boots & Blues

Do you have an item or service you'd be willing to donate to support a great cause? We are currently seeking items for our Live and Silent Auctions at our Boots & Blues fundraising event on June 1. Here are some of the types of items we are looking for: sports tickets, concert/event tickets, artwork,



gift baskets, vacation rentals, experiences, private chef dinners, private boat tours, signed memorabilia, celebrity meetup, gift cards to local businesses, wine & spirits, high-end goods and electronics, etc.

If you have an item or service you'd be interested in donating, please email Chris at: cnazareth@beverlybootstraps.org

### **Food Pantry Needs**

We are seeking the following items for our Food Pantry:

- Gluten Free Options from our <u>Top 10 List</u>
- Canned Chicken
- Adult Diapers (all sizes)



We appreciate your support! Donations can be dropped off at our 35 Park Street office or placed in our Beverly collection boxes located at Stop & Shop (224 Elliott Street and 37 Enon Street), Shaw's (71 Dodge Street), or the Council on Aging (90 Colon Street).

### **Spring Thrift Donations Needed**

Our Thrift Shop is now seeking spring/summertime donations! If you have any light-weight clothing and accessories, garden furniture and tools, BBQ utensils, and bright, summery linens and décor that are in wearable, workable condition and you no longer use, drop them off at The Thrift!



Donations are accepted outside in our parking lot at 198 Rantoul St. Monday-Friday 9:30 am to 4:00 pm and on Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. We are grateful for your support.

### **Matching Gifts**

Did you know you can easily search to see if your employer will match your donation to Beverly Bootstraps right from our website? If you're considering donating, or already have, your gift to Beverly Bootstraps could be matched dollar for dollar by your employer! Find out if your company has a Matching Gift program here.



### **Stop & Shop Community Bag**

### **Program**

Beverly Bootstraps Community Services has been selected again to receive \$1 from every \$2.50 reusable Community Bag sold during the month of April 2023 at Stop & Shop on 224 Elliott Street, Beverly MA



### Thank you!

## Forward March Food Drives

A special shout out to all the schools who participated in our Forward March Food Drive!

Ayers Ryal Side Elementary

School went above and beyond



the entire month of March and donated almost 2,000 pounds of items for our food pantry! They held a school-wide competition wherein the grade who donated the most items got to enjoy a Slushy Party and an opportunity to pick out a toy from the School Store. It fills our hearts to see kids giving back to their community while also enjoying a friendly competition. Thank you to everyone who participated in this Food Drive!

## **Brookwood's School-Wide Food Drive**

Fifth graders from Brookwood School, Manchester led a five-day schoolwide food drive as a part of their ongoing study of Wealth Distribution and Food Insecurity. In collaboration with the seventh grade and the Parents' Association, they set a goal



of collecting 2,500 pounds of non-perishables. Each family was asked to bring 12 pounds of items from our Top 10 List to help reach this goal. Together, they surpassed this and gave almost 4,000 pounds of items for our Food Pantry!

The fifth graders also got a chance to visit our building and take a tour, learning all about the different programs and services Beverly Bootstraps offers. We are so grateful to have received this extremely generous donation and to have partners in the community like Brookwood!

#### Who Doesn't Love Girl Scout

#### Cookies?

Guess how many boxes of Girl Scout Cookies were donated to us? Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts gave us a big donation of 100 cases! That's 1,200 boxes of cookies! How awesome is that? Thank you for this generous donation, our Food Pantry clients will surely enjoy this treat!



### Happenings

### Make an Impact with My Walgreens Cash Rewards

March 1 - May 31

Your local Walgreens branch

We're participating in the <u>myWalgreens</u> donation program! You can donate your myWalgreens cash rewards to Beverly Bootstraps through May 31. At Walgreens, you'll earn unlimited 1% Walgreens Cash rewards when you shop, and you can choose how much to donate. It's that easy. Whether you'd like to contribute \$1, \$5, or more of your Walgreens Cash rewards you'll be making a big difference. It really adds up!

#### Touch-A-Truck

Sunday, May 21, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm Beverly High School, 100 Sohier Road, Beverly

The Annual Touch-A-Truck event is a unique, interactive, one-day event held in Beverly during National Public Works Week. This event allows children to see, touch, and explore their favorite big trucks and vehicles as well as meet the personnel who protect, serve, and build the Beverly community.

Beverly Public Services and Beverly Bootstraps will be co-hosting a food drive at the event. We hope you will be able to bring an item from our <a href="Top-10 List">Top-10 List</a>.

### **Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive**

### Saturday, May 13

Leave a bag of non-perishable goods (no glass or expired items, please!) by your mailbox on Saturday, May 13, for your postal worker to collect! The need for food assistance is great right now, and we hope you will consider supporting. Last year, with your help we received over 13,000 lbs. of food. Can you help us surpass that this year?

#### Save the Date: Boots and Blues

Thursday, June 1, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Misselwood at Endicott College, 407 Hale Street, Beverly

Show your support for Beverly Bootstraps and everyone in the community

we are able to help because of you, at our premier fundraising event of the year. Spend the evening dancing with friends or relaxing on the lawn and playing games while the sounds of the ocean and blues music fill the air. Purchase your tickets today!



### To learn more, click on these handy links:



35 Park Street, Beverly, MA 01915 • 978-927-1561 • BeverlyBootstraps.org

Connect with us





