

## Community E-Newsletter

September 2023

We couldn't do it without you



Lauren\* had always been the pillar of strength for her family. But things got tough when her son passed away and she began taking care of her two grandsons. She came to us quietly, asking for help with their school supplies. She didn't want them to know she was struggling. We listened and signed her up for our [Back-to-School Backpack Program](#) to help her get

school supplies for her grandkids. We also enrolled Lauren in our Food Pantry for some additional support to ensure that her family's table was always filled with nourishing meals.

Our Back-to-School Backpack Drive has been growing every year thanks to the amazing support of our community. **With your help, we provided 910 backpacks filled with supplies** to students in our service area who might otherwise have gone to school empty handed on the first day! You helped raise funds, purchased school supplies and backpacks, and gave your time. We couldn't have done this without the support of all the individuals, groups, and companies that reached out to their staff, patients, and networks for additional support. YOU make this program possible!

That day, Lauren found support because of YOU. She realized it is okay to ask for help when things are hard. She found the strength to continue providing for her grandkids, ensuring their future remained bright despite the shadows that had touched their lives.

Because of you, Lauren and her family have peace of mind surrounding their stability. Thanks to donors and supporters like you, Beverly Bootstraps is here to help.

\*Client name changed and stock photo used for privacy

You can support struggling families by donating today >>

Exciting news

## Fall Classes Have Begun!

Our ESOL classes are already filled up for the fall term! Classes began on September 12 and will be running until November 16. Tutoring for the High School Equivalency (HSE) program is also offered virtually and/or in-person to accommodate our client's needs.



Education has always been a core component of our mission. Our education programs focus on providing accessible, practical courses to help students expand their skills, employment opportunities and increase their wages. [Learn more or register for classes here >>](#)

We are also hiring an HSE Education Coordinator. [Learn more >>](#)

## Secret Sale Fridays

Last week, the [Beverly Bootstraps Thrift Shop](#) kicked off an exciting new tradition that's bound to add an extra sprinkle of thrill to your Fridays – Secret Sale Fridays! Our exclusive Secret Sale is unveiled each Friday morning, offering fantastic discounts. The secret sale will be announced in-store only, so drop by and don't miss out on the secret of the week!



Follow the Thrift Shop on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

## How you can help

### September is Hunger Action Month

This [Hunger Action Month](#), choose to end the impossible choices of hunger. No one should have to choose between food or other crucial needs—like medicine, electricity, or childcare.

In the past year, you helped our Food Pantry accommodate **4,700 more** pantry visits, with over **100,000 more** pounds of food distributed to the community. More people are getting their groceries from Beverly Bootstraps than ever before. Can you help make a difference in an individual or family's life? There are many ways to help, [click here to learn how you can make a difference >>](#)



## Winter Wishes Holiday Gifts

It may still be warm out, but we are already preparing for the holidays! Many families in our community are not able to purchase presents for their children. Through Beverly Bootstraps Winter Wishes Holiday Gifts, donors help these children receive new clothes, games, and toys.



If you are looking for a group activity to do or if you are interested in helping, fill out this [interest form](#). We will send you an email in October to choose which family or families you would like to support during the holiday season. To learn more about this program, [click here >>](#)

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## Food Pantry Needs

We are seeking the following items for our Food Pantry:

- Diapers size 3+
- Baby Wipes
- Low Sugar Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Gluten Free Items from our [Top 10 List](#)



Shop online using our [Amazon Link](#)! Select the items you'd like to donate, and at check out, select **Beth Bahret - Beverly Bootstraps** as your shipping address, and the items will ship directly to our pantry!

Alternatively, donations can also be dropped off at our 35 Park Street office or placed in our collection boxes located at Stop & Shop (224 Elliott Street and 37 Enon Street), Shaw's (71 Dodge Street), and Council on Aging (90 Colon Street, Beverly). Thank you for your continuous support!

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## The Thrift Shop is Seeking Volunteers

We have Thrift Shop volunteer opportunities available! Enjoy a flexible schedule with shifts available Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 6:00 pm; Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm; Saturday 11:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Please email [volunteering@beverlybootstraps.org](mailto:volunteering@beverlybootstraps.org) or call 978-927-1561 to speak with our Volunteer Supervisor if you are interested.



Other available weekday volunteer opportunities available [here>>](#)

# Thank you!

## You Brought the Bread

We asked, and you delivered! Our Food Pantry ran low on bread a few weeks ago, and our amazing community stepped up to help us out. We were overwhelmed with gratitude for your incredible response to our call for bread donations. Your generosity has been heartwarming, and we want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your kindness and support!



## Filling our Hearts by Filling our Food Lockers

Since launching our [Refrigerated Food Lockers](#), many groups have held Food Drives to offer clients utilizing our lockers more choices! These smaller, very specific food drives, include healthy kids snacks, nuts, cleaning products, and toiletries.



A big shoutout to the following groups for kicking off these Food Locker drives: [Church in the Cove](#), [St. Peter's Episcopal Church](#), [St. John's Episcopal Church](#), [Mazow | McCullough, P.C.](#), [Anchor Bay Church](#). Thank you!

## Fisher and Fuel Fights the Good Fight

We are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded a generous grant from the Fisher & Fuel Society of Beverly for general operations, specifically aimed at benefiting the residents of Beverly. Their continued support is truly heartwarming and greatly appreciated! Thank you for your unwavering support.



## Happenings

### Fixin's for the Feast

**Wednesday, October 4**

Would you like to help provide families with all the Fixin's for their Thanksgiving Feast, including a gift card to purchase their turkey (or other protein and needs)? [Sign up to receive an email](#) when the program kicks off!

## Annual Essex ClamFest

**Saturday, October 21, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Shepard Memorial Park, 24 Martin Street, Essex**

Join us at the 39th Annual Essex ClamFest and Arts & Crafts Festival!

Although the highlight of the day is the Chowder Tasting Competition, there is also a great variety of activities, including arts and crafts vendors, non-profit tables, live entertainment, and plenty of food vendors on-site. Come over to our table, say hello, and learn more about what Beverly Bootstraps does for individuals and families in our community.

## Winter Wishes Holiday Gifts

**Kick off begins Thursday, October 19**

Celebrate the holidays by helping local children! Through Beverly Bootstraps Winter Wishes Holiday Gifts, you can help provide toys, clothes, and other gifts to children in need right here in our community. Please consider participating and helping these children have a happier holiday! [Click here to learn more >>](#)

## Help us Fight Hunger on Election Day

**Tuesday, November 7**

When you head out to vote on November 7, please bring non-perishable food items with you to donate to our Food Pantry. View our [Top 10 most needed items >>](#)

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When you join the [Circle of Hope](#), your automatic monthly recurring gift will provide a steady flow of hope to our clients all year long.

Because with hope, everything is possible.

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Beverly Bootstraps | 35 Park Street, Beverly, MA 01915

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