



Community E-Newsletter

February 2024

We couldn't do it without you



With your support, Beverly Bootstraps introduced its groundbreaking **Automated Refrigerated Food Lockers** in April 2023. These lockers are the first of their kind on the North Shore and help further our commitment to providing better access to essential food in the communities we serve. Since its inception, our Food Locker initiative has grown significantly, now

serving 319 individuals as of January 2024. These clients emphasize the crucial need for our Food Lockers, providing a convenient and discreet solution that aligns with the diverse lifestyles and schedules of the individuals and families we serve.

Motivated by the escalating demand, we proudly announce that our two-day-a-week service has expanded to three days a week. This additional day has allowed clients, like Emily, to rely on our Food Lockers. Emily*, a busy working mom in our community, has limited access to a car after work. Traditional visits to our Food Pantry became a challenge for Emily. "I have limited access to a car after work and can't visit the food pantry in person; this was really nice being able to grab the food after work!" For Emily, the Food Lockers offered not just convenience but a lifeline. "My children are young, and it is hard to take them all to the Food Pantry. It is easier for me to pick up at the food lockers. We also cannot make ends meet; we have no money for food and gas between paychecks for our family of 5, so this is helping me feed my kids."

Emily's story is one of many that exemplify the transformative impact of our Food Lockers and underscore the pressing need for such services in our community. Our mission is to ensure that families like Emily's don't go without essential, nutritious food as well as household & personal items. With the continued support of donors, volunteers, and the community, we eagerly anticipate further positive transformations in the journey ahead. Our gratitude goes to our generous donors whose unwavering support has empowered us to meet the increasing demand for our services.

Our Food Lockers are available for food-insecure members living in Beverly, Manchester, Hamilton, Wenham, and Essex. With 24-hour access, individuals can pick up food orders made online through the Beverly Bootstraps SmartChoice system. If you or someone you know is interested in utilizing

these Food Lockers, [sign up here>>](#)

*Client name changed and stock photo used for privacy

Yes, I want to help community members in need >>

Exciting news

Attn: Parents/Caregivers! Little Hands, Large Hearts Tour

Are you looking for a fun, educational activity with your kids over the February vacation? We invite families for a special Little Hands, Large Hearts Tour. This tour of our Food Pantry and organization will help teach kids the importance of caring and how hunger affects so many in our community.



Join us on Friday, February 23, at Beverly Bootstraps, 35 Park Street, Beverly. The tours will begin at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. All ages are welcome. Parents/caregivers must attend with children. Contact Deb Ploszay at dploszay@beverlybootstraps.org or 978-927-1561 with any questions. We hope to see you there!



Chilly Thrills in the Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry is excited to share our latest additions in our fight against hunger, thanks to the Food Security Infrastructure Grant from the [MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs](#). This generous grant has enabled us to replace and install another walk-in refrigerator in our Food Pantry and acquire a brand-new refrigerated van to transport food. Additionally, we are thrilled to

share that a grant from the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) (HUD) made the replacement and installation of a new, larger walk-in freezer possible. These targeted funds ensure that Beverly Bootstraps has the ability to continue its vital work in providing fresh, nutritious food to a growing number of individuals in need.

Thank you to the MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs and HUD for empowering us to make a tangible impact on food insecurity in our community!

How you can help

A Heart Healthy Valentine's

Share the love this Valentine's Day by holding a **Heart Healthy Food Drive!** Throughout February, help fill the shelves of our Food Pantry with love by donating **any of these Heart Healthy food items >>**.

You may drop your donations off at 35 Park Street, Beverly. Your support warms our hearts!



Bringing Waves of Joy

We are bringing waves of joy this Black History Month with our newly expanded Amazon list, featuring a diverse range of hair care products! You can now shop and donate textured hair care products, including selections from black-owned or founded brands. Your support enriches our clients' experiences while commemorating the beauty and diversity within our community. **Shop our Amazon list**

today>>

Donations Wanted!

Give new life to your unwanted items and make a positive impact! Consider donating pre-loved CDs/records, spring clothing and shoes, and housewares to Beverly Bootstraps Thrift Shop. 100% of the net profit from the Thrift Shop helps Beverly Bootstraps provide essential resources and support to those in need in our community.

DONATIONS WANTED

Give new life to your unwanted items and make a positive impact!



All donations can be dropped off in the Thrift Shop parking lot at 198 Rantoul Street **during our donation hours**. Please ring the bell on the rear door for assistance.

Remember to make us a stop on your shopping trips. We are open Monday – Saturday and offer an array of fabulous finds at great deals!

Thank you!

Harmeling PT Snack Bags

All five offices of **Harmeling Physical Therapy & Sports Fitness** (Danvers,

Wilmington, Wenham, Manchester & Gloucester) came together to build 700 Snack Bags for Beverly Bootstraps! This generous donation was part of their annual 'Pay It Forward' initiative. Thank you to everyone who participated in giving back to our community. We are so grateful to you!



North Shore Lions and Friends



We are grateful for the fantastic support of the [North Shore Lions Club](#). Their members donated personal care items for our Food Pantry and cleaning supplies for our Food Lockers! These essentials are costly items not covered by SNAP benefits. By providing these items to our clients, we hope to free up funds they can reallocate to rent and other monthly costs. Thank you, Lions!

Diaper Donations

Our diapers were running low, our plea was heard, and YOU, our amazing community, responded in an awesome way! Thank you to everyone who ordered through our Amazon list and those who dropped off donations. These diapers and wipes donations go a long way and make a big difference in the lives of our clients.



THANK YOU for stepping up when we need your support. It's truly heartwarming to see how we can count on our community. Together, we are stronger!

Happenings

Make your Super Bowl party a Souper Bowl!

Sunday, February 11

Help tackle hunger while watching the game and cheering for your favorite team! Host a game day party with your friends/ family and score even bigger by collecting and donating canned soups, stews, and "meals in a can" donations. Thank you for helping us tackle hunger!

Upcoming Closings

[Food Pantry Amazon Wish List >>](#)

[Volunteer ▶](#)

[Host a drive ▶](#)

[Events ▶](#)

[Visit our site ▶](#)

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[BB News ▶](#)

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