

## March 2017

### ***WFP has a lot to be thankful for!***

Spring is slowly but surely returning to New England and we will soon increase our outdoor activities, including planting our gardens and riding our bikes to prepare for the Ride for Food. In two months we will have our next big food drive - the Stamp Out Hunger postal food drive on May 13. You can read more about WFP activities below in this newsletter.

But first, since we didn't have a year-end wrap-up newsletter, it seems most appropriate to reflect now on 2016 events and express our gratitude for *all* the support we've received from the Wellesley community. We have been the beneficiaries of many kind donations, generous financial contributions, and hundreds of volunteer hours in support of our mission to serve our clients. We could not sustain our work without your assistance - please know that we appreciate it.



## **FUNDRAISING**

### **In This Issue**

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Now on to 2017!

What We Need

Planting Seeds?

### ***What We Need:***

The Wellesley Food Pantry can always use these staples:

- Vegetable oil
- Mayonnaise
- Ketchup/Mustard
- Bagged rice/boil in bag rice
- Fruit cups
- Almonds/other nuts
- Canned meals
- Canned meats/fish
- Jelly/jam
- Paper towels
- Pasta sauce
- Tomato paste
- Spaghetti (*but not other pasta types*)

Our largest fundraising efforts during 2016 came were:

**Ride for Food:** This was our fourth year participating in the event and the results improve every year; our total raised for 2016 was more than \$19,000. This amounts to approximately 30% of our annual budget! WFP would like to thank our nine riders for their participation and efforts: Becky Cole, Dave Cole, Peter Lull, Clint Moon (special thanks as team captain), Patricia Moon, Larry Scott, Eric Seaborn, Grace Seaborn, and Dan Suratt. Just as importantly we would like to thank everyone who sponsored the riders and contributed to the cause. Next year's ride will take place on the Sunday, Sept. 24 - save the date and sign up to ride, donate, or volunteer. More information can be found at the [Ride for Food website](#).



**Personal Items:**  
Shampoo  
Diapers (especially sizes 3-5)  
Toilet tissue  
Shaving cream/razors  
Feminine products  
Laundry detergent

### ***Seeking Incredible Gardeners***

Do you have one of the greenest thumbs in town?



If you are planting vegetables in your garden this spring, please consider adding some extra for the pantry! Fresh produce is always welcome and a healthy choice for our clients! Thank you!

### **Wellesley Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing:**

Wellesley Food pantry was the beneficiary of the match hole challenge at the Chamber's annual golf outing in August, and we would like to thank them for choosing us once again. This year we were able to collect \$1,200 in donations thanks to the generous match from Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare.



**WHS's Empty Bowls Project**, which raised nearly \$1,400 on behalf of the pantry.

We also benefited greatly from donations of fresh produce from the local gardens of **Weston Road Garden Club**, **MassHort**, **Christ Church United Methodist**, **Village Church**, and several other local gardeners.

### **DONATIONS**

The pantry also received many sizable donations specifically to help us stock our shelves; several of these efforts were:

**Turkey Trot:** This race on Thanksgiving morning resulted in a collection and large delivery of items to the pantry.



### **Join Our Mailing List**



**Forward to a Friend**

**Lovin' Spoonfuls** is a food rescue organization that allows us to select from produce donated by Whole Foods, Volante Farms, and Trader Joe's each week and has been supplying us with supplemental items since early last year.



**Hope & Comfort** is an organization that provides personal care items to organizations serving people in need such as WFP. As you might imagine, these additional donations have been warmly welcomed by our clients.

## CHANGES

The pantry has also undergone other changes in the past year:

**Seana Gupta** is our new Food Drive Coordinator, working with schools and other groups/organizations about the steps needed to put together a successful food drive and providing guidance on particular items needed for the pantry.

**Teresa Barlozzari** and **Elizabeth Matera** both agreed to serve on Wellesley Food Pantry's board of directors.

## IN MEMORIAM

Our biggest news of 2016 was the passing of one of our cofounders, Barbie Anderson. She was a positive force in building the foundation for today's food pantry and was an energetic and enthusiastic supporter of our mission. Her spirit and dedication still reverberate throughout the organization today.



As a testament to her strong commitment and work on behalf of Wellesley Food Pantry more than 80 people/organizations donated \$11,000 to the pantry in honor of her. We are so grateful to have had her vision to guide the organization and ensure its success.

## THANK YOUs

And of course a big **thank you to all our volunteers** who help throughout the year sorting and stocking shelves, assisting clients, delivering donations, and staffing the pantry as needed. In particular we would like to thank the efforts of **National Charity League**, **Wellesley Hills Junior Women's Club**, and the **Wellesley Service League**. We sincerely mean it when we say we couldn't do it without you!

WFP is also grateful for the continuing support we receive from the **Wellesley Hills Congregational**