

Loaves and Fishes of Tompkins County

Ithaca's Community Kitchen 2017 Highlights

Serving Ithaca and Tompkins County for 34 years

We are proud of our contribution to the community and gratefully acknowledge our host, the St. John's Episcopal Church, for its generous participation in our ministry to provide free, nutritious meals, hospitality and advocacy each weekday to all who enter our doors.

Guests and Activities

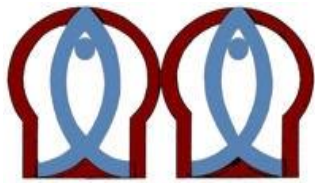
- Our guests included the unemployed and underemployed, persons on inadequate public assistance and their children, people dealing with chronic mental- or physical-health challenges, the working poor, veterans, the homeless, people in crisis, and anyone desiring companionship.
- We served 33,000 free, "home cooked," meals last year --- 2,750 meals each month.
- Currently we serve an average of 130 nutritious meals, including a vegan option, each day.
- Advocacy -- practical support and linkage to social services for basic needs -- was offered at each mealtime by the Advocacy Coordinator, Executive Director, Kitchen Staff and Advocacy Volunteers.
- The Advocacy Program offers our guests compassionate support and practical help with the goal of satisfying such basic needs as housing, transportation, food, healthcare and safety. We link guests to existing social services and community resources. Additionally, advocacy funds are available to guests in an emergency for bus passes, gas, medical prescriptions, laundry, basic household items and clothing. The Advocacy Program is characterized by the compassion and respect we have for each individual person in our community. Outreach/abling from over 25 local human service agencies is offered regularly during mealtimes. These organizations include: Catholic Charities-Food Stamps (SNAP), Tompkins County Workforce NY, Ithaca Free (Health) Clinic, Cornell Legal Research Clinic, and Family & Children's Service Community Outreach Worker. A Tompkins County Health Nurse provides our guests with monthly basic education and healthcare screenings.
- Loaves & Fishes serves as a worksite for the Learning Web (Youth at Risk), Challenge Workforces Solutions, and the Hospitality Employment Training Program (HETP) of the Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC). The L & F staff provides their clients with hands-on kitchen and hospitality work experience in the context of a formal mentoring relationship.
- Special meals honoring various cultures and holidays are celebrated throughout the year: Black, Latino and Native American Heritage Months, Women's History Month, Maundy Thursday, Kwanzaa and Christmas.
- Live music, including singing, is periodically provided by various community members and L & F guests.

Volunteers

- We rely on over 100 incredibly dedicated community volunteers each week and 20-30 volunteers each day. Community Volunteer Groups: Akwesasne Community Service Group, Challenge Workforce Solutions, CBORD, Eastern Stars - Dorianthia #19 Chapter, Family & Children's Services, Elmira Saving Bank, GIAC Seniors and Teens, GiveGab, Hilton Garden Inn, Ithaca High School Students, New Roots LEAP, Morgan Stanley, Super 8 Motel, and Unity House. Cornell Students & Groups: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Alpha Phi, Alpha Phi Omega, Beta Theta Pi, Dyson School, Cornell 4C, CU Bioscholars, Cornell Cru, CU Food Science Club, CU Higher Education Opportunity Program, Cornell Public Interest Law Union, Cornell Law Students Assoc., Cornell Public Health Society, Cornell Institute for Public Affairs, Cornell Office of Volunteer Programs, Delta Gamma, Delta Delta Delta, Delta Sigma Theta, Delta Tau Delta, Global Medical Missions Alliance, Humphrey Scholars, Into The Streets, Kappa Alpha Theta, Omega Psi Phi, Omicron Nu Omega, PATCH, Phi Gamma Delta, Phi Kappa Alpha, CU POST, Sigma Alpha Mu, and Sigma Pi. Ithaca College Students & Groups: IC Projects in Community, IC Students, Ithaca Circle K, IC Mu Phi Epsilon and Ithaca College Women's Track Team.

COME JOIN OUR TABLE ALL ARE WELCOME





Loaves & Fishes, Ithaca's Community Kitchen

Special Guests and Performers

We have enjoyed performances by Jerome Attardo, Emilio Benites, Yvonne Wakim Dennis, Gordy McCoy, Ms. Lou Grawel, Carlos Gutierrez, and Larry Real, with help and equipment from the Tompkins County Workers Center and Ithaca Guitar Works.

Regular Food Donations

Loaves & Fishes received \$40,832 worth of food donations last year. Several dozen individuals and merchants, including local farms, donated an abundance of food to us. They included Bright Raven Farm, Buried Treasures Organic Farm, Hillside Farm, Humble Hill Farm, Ithaca Organics, Jackman Vineyards, Littletree Orchards, Morning Song Community Service Farm, Nook & Cranny Farm, Plenty of Posies Farm, Reisinger's Apple Country, The Three Swallow - Youth Farm Project Farm, West Haven Farm, Wixom Farm, Clark's Market, Cornell Plant Breeding, The Cornell Store, Emmy's Organics, Friendship Donations Network, Gimme! Coffee, GreenStar, Ithaca Hummus, Ithaca Rotary Club, Ithaca Soy, Mandible Café, Moose Lodge, Oasis Hillel Grill, Panera Bread, The Piggery, Short Stop Deli, Starbucks, Susie's Seitan, Texas Road House, and Wegmans.

Fundraising

Fundraisers included: individual donations through the L & F Summer Appeal and Winter Appeal and the L & F Meal-A-Month Donation Program, Giving is Gorges, Finger Lakes Runners Club's Turkey Trot organized by Bruce Roebel, Cornell Men's and Women's Hockey Teams & Fans, and our annual EMPTY BOWLS fundraiser dinner. Empty Bowls Business Sponsors included: Cayuga Medical Center, Crown Construction, CSP Management, Fingerlakes Wealth Management, Innovative Dynamics, Insero, Maguire Family of Dealerships, Pleasant Valley Electric, Sciarabba Walker, Taste of Thai Express, Triad Foundation and True Insurance.

Grants were generously awarded through the Lewis G. Schaeneman Jr. Foundation, Park Foundation, Triad Foundation, United Way of Tompkins County and through our federal, state, and county governments.

Staff

Executive Director: Rev. Christina Culver, **Kitchen Manager/Receiver:** Katie Church

Kitchen Manager: Jenny Reeves, **Kitchen Manager Assistant:** Katy Noonan

Advocacy Coordinator: J.R. Clairborne, **Administrative and Volunteer Coordinator:** Cindy Bray

Board of Directors April 2017 - March 2018

President: Christine Barksdale **Vice President:** Dale Johnson **Secretary:** George Boyer

Treasurer: Ed Baxter **Directors:** Joel Abrams, Randy Barker, Charles Ciccone, Ted Clark, Tristram Coffin, Peter Cronin, Lucy Fisher, Mary Beth Grant, Sandie Grooms, Betty House, John Jackson, Dawne Peacock, Martin Wells, Charles Whitehead and Deborah Whitehead

Contact Us

- For more information about volunteering or donating: E-mail - info@loaves.org or Call - 607-272-5457
- Enjoy our inspiring video on our website: www.loaves.org
- Like our Facebook page to learn more about our ministry and upcoming events

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