



Our Neighbors' Table 2020 Vision

Our Vision:

There are many complex issues that lead individuals and families to experience food insecurity – under- and unemployment, fixed incomes outpaced by the cost of living, physical and mental health costs among the most common. However, the issue of food access is, perhaps, a more simplistic problem that, with proper planning and local resources can be overcome.

Over the last 10 years, Our Neighbors' Table has built strong partnerships with local organizations like the Amesbury and Merrimac Housing Authority, Councils on Aging in Amesbury, Merrimac, and Groveland, social service agencies, and the local schools. Combined with a strong volunteer corps of more than 400 community members, our network provides the infrastructure for ONT to develop and implement programs that maximize accessibility in those communities. By 2014, ONT was essentially “meeting the need”, providing enough food to as many Amesbury residents as data identified as food insecure.

It is the vision of ONT that we may alleviate food insecurity in our region by providing real, community-based access to food for all residents. Leveraging the facilities at The Jardis-Taylor Center for Our Neighbors' Table, ONT will improve accessibility to its on-site programming and replicate successful community partnerships across all 12 cities and towns to bring food within reach for all in need.

Our Plan:

The following is a basic framework devised by ONT staff and Board at the outset of its planning. As the construction of our new facility and the correlating capital campaign get underway, we expect the specifics of this plan to evolve. Communities demonstrating greater unmet need will be prioritized and program models will be tailored to meet the specific needs of the people and community it will serve.

2016

- Align staffing with existing program demands.
- Employee benefits plan
- Provide capacity to fundraising/resource development, which will provide for increased funding to support priorities in upcoming years.

- Incorporate on-site providers to assist guests
- Prioritize new cross-dock site for GBFB to increase food to region, decrease ONT trips to food bank
- **New hires:**
 - Mobile Distribution Coordinator
 - Program Director (promote LT)
 - Payroll service
- **Program expansions:**
 - Summer Lunch Program – 12 cities and towns
 - Mobile distribution—Newburyport
 - Diaper program

2017

- Focus on underserved families
- Routine donor/volunteer communications
- Volunteer training program
- Improve coordination of data and programming across regional pantries

New Hire:

- No new hires for 2017

Program expansions:

- 10% increase on-site pantry
- 50% increase at Merrimac
- Mobile distribution—Groveland

2018

- Increase mobile distributions where needed**

New hires:

- No new hires

Program expansions:

- Salisbury Distribution (Pettengill Partnership)

New purchase:

- Truck (or 2)

2019

- Increase mobile distributions where needed**

New hires:

- No new staff
- 3% COLA

Program expansions:

- 30-50 new households reached in mobile programs
- Standard 10% increase for on-site pantry.