

"I never knew about ONT. I came for the summer lunch program and it was such a huge help, especially the fresh stuff – like carrots and peppers. My kids really love them."

-an SLP participant

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

In 2015, the Summer Lunch Program provided **11,883 meals** to 126 children during school vacation, bringing the 6 year total to more than **42,000 meals**.

Across the region, more than 2,000 children qualify for free or reduced school lunch. During the school year, school breakfasts and lunches are critical in making sure these children get three meals a day. But when summer break comes, their parents face a significant financial challenge. At an average cost of \$3/meal, the cost of feeding each child for the 9 weeks of summer vacation is \$300. Compounded with costs of summer camp and childcare, the loss of school lunches quickly turns summer fun into summer angst.

The ONT Summer Lunch Program has been running every summer since 2010 and, in 2015, expanded from its original Amesbury-only pilot program to a full operation serving families from each of the 12 cities and towns in ONT's service area.

ONT is proud to provide relief to these families, and to do so with wholesome, nutritious foods that children WILL eat! ONT provides each enrolled family with groceries for breakfast, lunch and snack foods - foods like fresh oranges, cherries, grapes, carrots, hummus, peanut butter and jelly, wheat bread, lunch meat, milk, eggs, and cereal. This year, with support from Heron Pond and the Haas Family Foundation and Pennies for Poverty, families received an abundance of local produce and gift cards to our local farms. Participation in the SLP also exposes families to the opportunity to partake in our year-round pantry and many go on to do so.

Whether kids are home for the summer, at daycare, or at summer camp, the Summer Lunch program is empowering their parents with the opportunity to pack healthy, nutritious lunches to keep their children's bellies full and their energy strong to run, jump, and enjoy the summer just like every other kid.

SUMMER LUNCHES SERVED



17,987
Healthy Meals



126
Children



PO Box 592
Amesbury, MA 01913
ourneighborstable.org



2015
ANNUAL REPORT

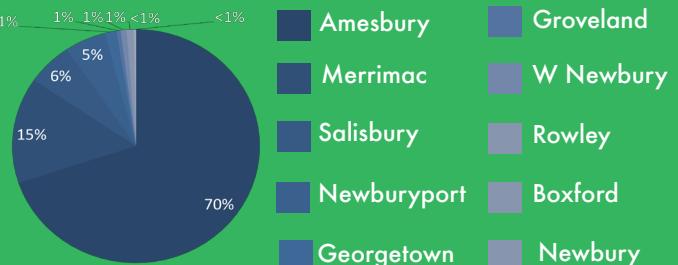


2015 A YEAR IN REVIEW

WHO YOU HELPED FEED

500,000
Meals2,878
People Served1,480
Adults458
Children321
Seniors

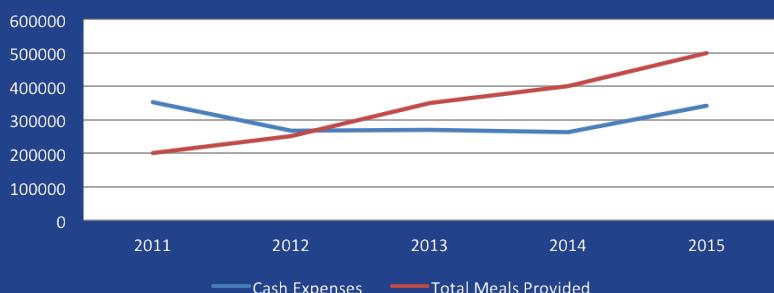
BY TOWN



EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Historical Performance:

Annual Cash Expenses vs. Program Output



THE STORIES THAT INSPIRE US

Every week, community volunteers clock more than **300 hours** at Our Neighbors' Table to help get food to our neighbors in need. Over the last year, we were privileged to get a deeper look at what motivates these volunteers, what inspires them, how we inspire each other. We heard from so many of our volunteers and our guests about what brought them to ONT. Jim's tribute to Ida Payne, Justin's heroic story of overcoming childhood homelessness, Dot's determination to provide for her children. If you haven't already, I highly recommend watching their videos and reading their stories at www.ourneighborstable.org/inspiringstories.



In truth, since our humble beginnings, it has been the collective impact of thousands of these inspiring stories that has put food on the tables of thousands more. In 2015, ONT's food pantry and meal programs distributed **500,000 meals** to people in need across 12 cities and towns. The expansion of our Summer Lunch Program provided nutritious, fresh foods to more than 100 children who might go without during school break. We distributed **100,000 pounds** of fresh produce grown at local farms and gardens. Collectively we are making a big difference in fighting hunger.

In 2015, we turned a corner. We launched our first-ever capital campaign to raise \$1.1 million to build the **Jardis-Taylor Center for Our Neighbors' Table**. In embarking on this new venture, we learned a lot about ourselves. We learned that we have grown our program output by 150% since 2011. Our partnerships with the Councils on Aging in Amesbury and Merrimac have helped us bring food security to nearly 100% of seniors in these communities. Investments we've made in our infrastructure and building a team have actually helped us cut our costs by 24%. And, as we hit the final stretch of our capital campaign, having raised more than \$825,000 so far, we've learned that neighbors in every community we serve are committed to creating a place at the table for everyone. Here's to the impact of our collective and the path to food security in our community.

Lyndsey Haight
Executive Director



FRESH PRODUCE IS THE STANDARD,
NOT THE EXCEPTION

Since 2011, ONT has shifted its focus from just distributing food, to distributing as much fresh food as possible. We repeatedly hear from guests that what they need and appreciate most from our programs are the fresh items they cannot afford at the store – milk, meat, and FRESH fruits and vegetables. ONT continues to lead the charge in shifting the norm at food pantries from non-perishables to fresh foods. Of the 621,000 pounds of food our pantry distributed in 2015, more than half were comprised of fresh products. And we estimate that more than 100,000 pounds of our fruits and vegetables were grown within 15 miles of our pantry!

"It's like our own little farmers market. Everything is freshly picked," shares ONT Executive Director Lyndsey Haight.

ONT continues to receive donated fresh produce from growers like Heron Pond Farm in South Hampton, Old Stone Farm in West Newbury, or the Farm at Eastman's Corner, and from countless personal gardeners and school-based community gardens, like the one at Cashman Elementary School.

In 2015, we were able to expand our local offerings to extend year-round. What started with a grant to purchase Heron Pond Farm's CSA shares for the Summer Lunch Program soon grew to support our partnership straight through the winter season. Guests at ONT's pantry can now enjoy a wide variety 12 months a year - from the familiar carrots and tomatoes, to the adventurous kohlrabi and celeriac. We'll continue to rely on donations during the growing season, but this partnership model is opening the doors to create a win-win opportunity for ONT guests and local farms through the winter months.