



OUR MISSION

Hunger comes in many forms. Our Neighbors' Table is committed to establishing a community that provides for the whole person with nourishing food, kindness and dignity.

OUR CORE VALUES

Service with dignity
 Community
 Quality
 Respect
 Confidentiality

WHAT IS FOOD SECURITY?

“Having no reported indications of food-access problems or limitations”

- US DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

In other words, someone who is food secure has no problems getting food when and where they need it. Food insecurity begins with the anxiety of whether or not you will have enough food and continues to extreme cases of rationing meal sizes or skipping meals altogether.

There are an estimated 6,000 people living in northeastern Essex County who are food insecure.

PO Box 592
 Amesbury, MA 01913
 ourneighborstable.org



2017 ANNUAL REPORT



**ONE
 MILLION
 PLATES
 filled!**



2017 AT A GLANCE



1,000,000
meals



3,418
people



484
families with
children



504
seniors



148
military
veterans



674
active
volunteers

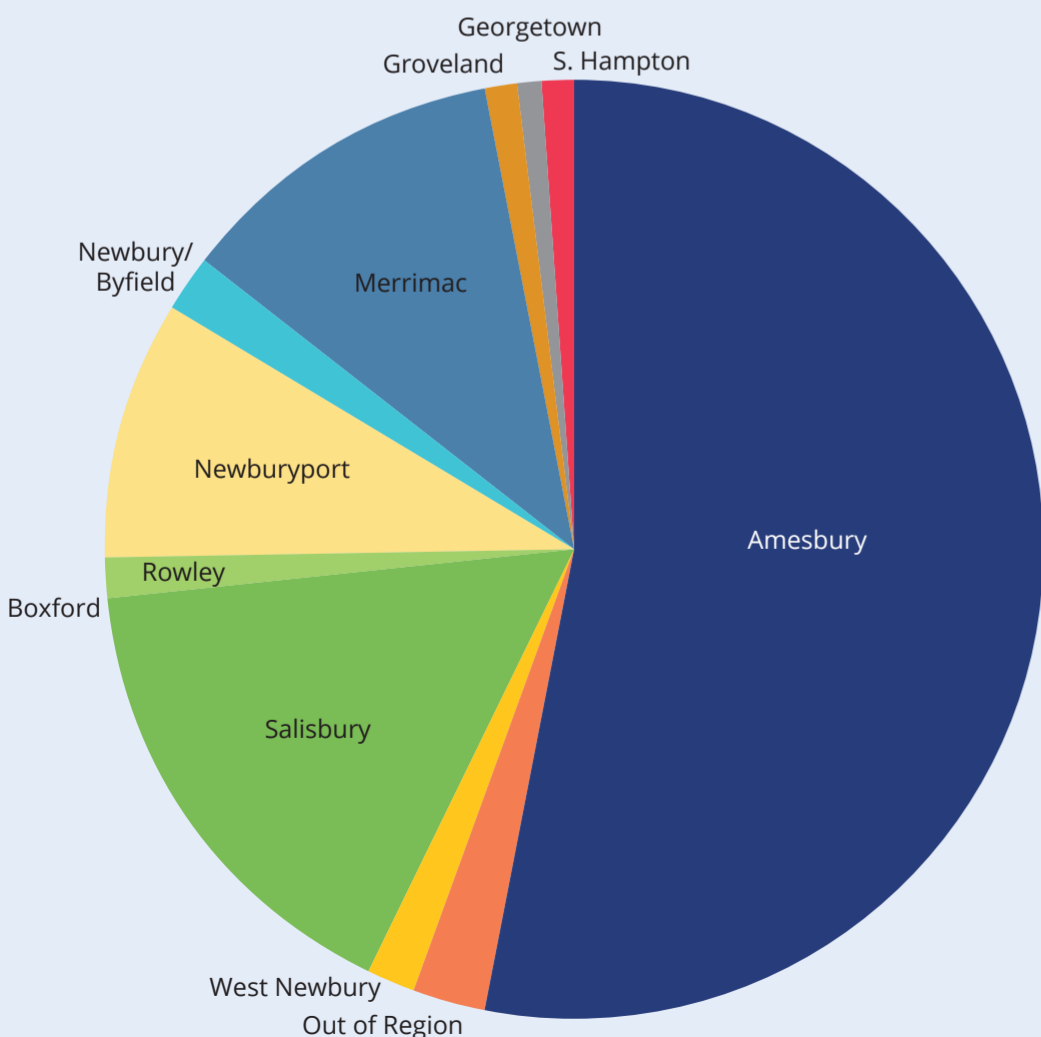


\$552,000
in local food
donations



\$0.83
average cost
per meal

WHERE ONT GUESTS LIVE



25 YEARS IN THE MAKING: 5 MILLION MEALS, 10,000 NEIGHBORS SERVED

May 6, 2017 marked the 25th anniversary of the first meal ever served at Our Neighbors' Table. This year-long celebration included reflections from our community members, a festive gathering of our volunteers—including a larger-than-life birthday cake—and the launch of our Fill Em Up Fest® food truck festival in Newburyport.

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3,500 NEIGHBORS SERVED BUT WHO ARE THEY?

In 2017, ONT served 4% of the population of the entire service region (from Salisbury to Boxford). The people who eat food from Our Neighbors' Table cross all demographics—age, marital status, race—and life circumstances. For the last four consecutive years, at least 1 of every 12 people living in Amesbury has consumed food from ONT's programs. The increase in awareness of our programs has resulted in a drastic rise in people across the region accessing food at Our Neighbors' Table.

children	seniors	veterans	full-time workers	retirees
892	504	148	304	424



INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Most of ONT's support comes from contributions from local individuals and businesses in donations under \$100. But like any business or infrastructure venture, increasing food access and, thus, food insecurity, requires significant investment. This year, strong investments in our future have paved the way for universal food security in our region.

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25 YEARS IN THE MAKING: 5 MILLION MEALS, 10,000 NEIGHBORS SERVED

CONTINUED

While festivities and celebration make this anniversary fun, what makes it truly special is the impact that 25 years can have on a community - from 8 guests a week in May 1992, to 1,000 each week in May 2017. **Over the course of the last 25 years, ONT has served more than 10,000 people living in our region with approximately 5 Million Meals.**

For those living in ONT's hometown of Amesbury, the decades-long availability of our food assistance programs has brought more than just a meal on the table. Residents of Amesbury have come to trust that when crisis hits, or finances don't add up, one certainty is constant - food is never more than a phone call away.

Putting food on the table for someone today helps curb their hunger. Guaranteeing that food will be on their table everyday creates food security. Our Neighbors' Table is proud to say that we have brought food security to the Amesbury community. It is the direct result of the collaboration between thousands of local residents, city officials, schools, local businesses and organizations. And it will be sustained because of the joint resolve to ensure no one in our community has to go hungry. The people of Amesbury should feel proud of this accomplishment, too. ONT will continue to steward this spirit and hopes to replicate it in our surrounding cities and towns where need is just as great. The *2020 Strategic Plan: A Path to Food Security* sets the plan to do just that.

2020 STRATEGIC PLAN

A PATH TO FOOD SECURITY

If you want to get somewhere, you need to know where you're going and how best to get there. The opening of the Jardis-Taylor Center in 2016, which set a new standard in hunger relief with its state-of-the-art design, was the direct result of ONT's 2012-14 Strategic Plan. That plan guided our work to strengthen our financial and human infrastructure, create a fundraising program, and improve access and quality of our programs. Without these directed investments of time and money, ONT never would have been able to carry out a successful capital campaign, earn the trust of our generous benefactor, or create a place for everyone as we have.

Emboldened by the success of completing our 2012 and 2015 plans, **ONT has set an ambitious goal to harness our momentum and work toward universal food access across our region.** And, this time, we're 100% confident it can be done! So here's how our goals break down:

GOAL 1: Increase food security across northeastern Essex County.

Gain an in-depth understanding of food insecurity across ONT's service region and establish clear metrics to measure ONT's impact in increasing food security.

Work to expand access to quality food assistance across the region, and, by 2020, ensure universal access in Amesbury, Merrimac, Salisbury and Newburyport. Drawing on lessons learned, expand universal access to Georgetown, Groveland, Newbury, Boxford and Rowley by 2023.

GOAL 2: Build awareness of food insecurity as an issue in northeastern Essex County and build support for addressing this issue.

Broaden understanding throughout the region of "food insecurity" and need in our local communities.

Expand ONT's capacity and visibility to serve as the regional leader to address food insecurity. Ensure that food insecurity is recognized as an important issue across our region and that the community-at-large will feel empowered to help resolve it.

GOAL 3: Strengthen ONT's organizational systems and infrastructure to support current and future growth.

Drive our work at all levels through our shared vision, mission and strategic goals.

Create a sustainable infrastructure that engages our volunteers, recruits and retains qualified staff and leadership, and plans for current and future programming.



INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

CONTINUED

In May 2017, ONT was named one of **Cummings Foundation's 100K for 100** grant recipients. "The selection process is highly competitive and rigorous. To receive this award is a testament to the hard work of the entire ONT community and the potential impact we can make on food insecurity in our region," says ONT's Executive Director Lyndsey Haight. The investment from Cummings Foundation, disbursed over two years in 2017 and 2018, has already helped increase our reach through our weekly market at The Jardis-Taylor Center and is setting the stage to expand ONT's mobile market programs.

If you're going to move more food, you must have more wheels! In 2017, ONT added an 18' refrigerated box truck to its fleet of vehicles. Purchased through a capital grant from the Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund, the new truck doubles ONT's capacity to secure food from the Greater Boston Food Bank and local food suppliers and get it back out to the community in our mobile markets. The refrigeration on the vehicle allows ONT to move more FRESH food—perishables such as frozen meats and fish, dairy, and produce. Like all food vendors, ONT is

regulated by state and federal food safety guidelines. Most of the individuals participating in ONT's mobile markets are elderly or have significant health concerns, making them more sensitive to food-borne illness. A refrigerated truck now allows ONT to maintain its high standards of quality food to all who need it.

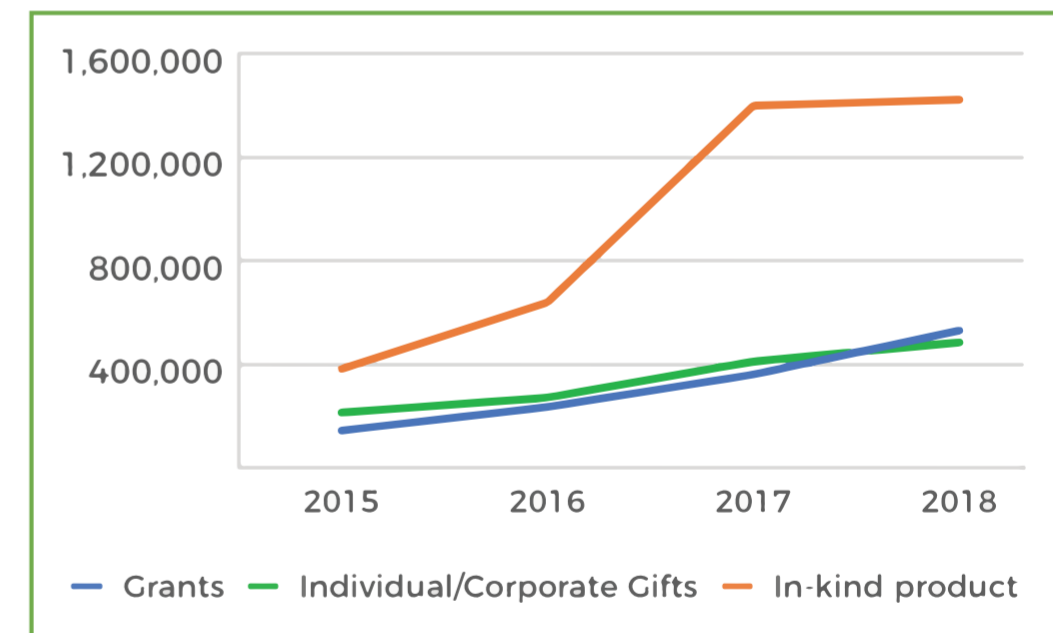
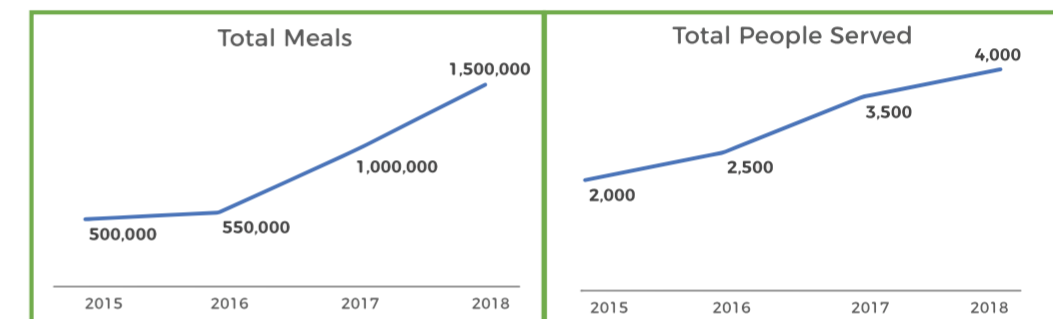
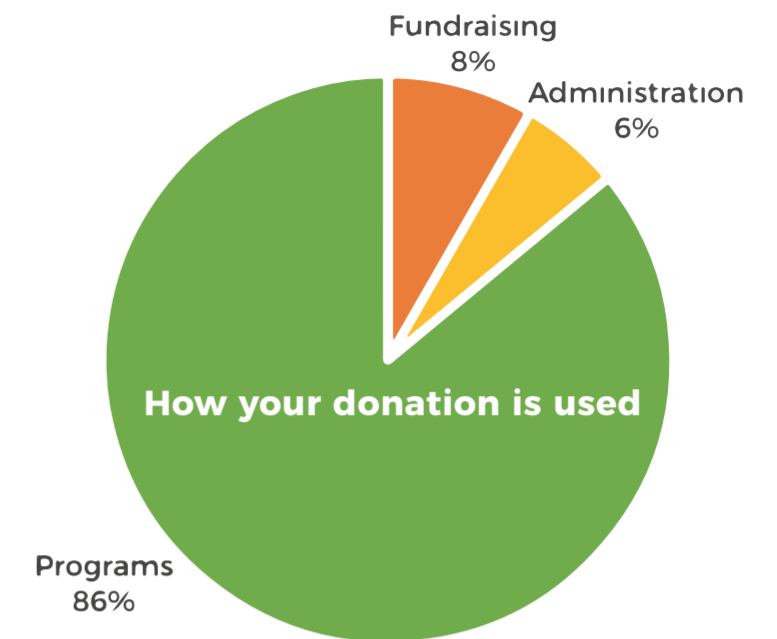
These large grants are a critical resource in long-term growth. However, what continues to sustain ONT's programs day-to-day are the local investments from neighbors who believe in taking care of their neighbors. In June, ONT unveiled the installation of its **Spoon Platoon**. A one-of-a-kind living sculpture that will grow as does our community of supporters. Donors giving \$1,000 or more annually are honored with an engraved spoon. The piece was a collaborative project between local sculptors Ryan Kelley (Wire by Ryan) and Stephen Martin.



PO Box 592
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ourneighborstable.org

STEWARDSHIP YOUR RESOURCES



Thank you!

674 Volunteers
30,000 Hours
BIG Impact!!!