

Community E-Newsletter

May 2022



Saturday, May 14

Leave non-perishable food donations by your mailbox

National Partners



We couldn't do it without you

Beverly Bootstraps Closes Out Another Successful Tax Season!

The beginning of May signals the end of another very successful tax season here at Beverly Bootstraps. This year a new group of recently retired professionals joined our incredible tax team. After a hiatus in which our tax preparators worked wholly virtually, we were able to bring in clients to work face to face with our team. Working in person made the process much faster for both clients and volunteers.



Working in the tax program was an eye-opening experience for many of our first-time volunteers. Those who had only ever had to deal with their taxes could see how important it is for our clients to get the maximum return possible. "I did a return for a single mom who made under \$4,000 working for a church in Gloucester and earned another \$500 from another part-time job." Said tax program coordinator Don Brown, "That was all the income she had for the year. She showed a tremendous amount of poise from when she arrived until we completed her return. There were a few complicated returns

that evening, and she didn't leave until 8:30. I apologized for the lateness of the hour, and she kept saying she was "so grateful and thankful that we were preparing and filing her return."

Fortunately, this client qualified for a unique option that the Federal Government offered for the first time this year. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) wants people to maximize their Earned Income Credit (EIC) since many people earned less during the past two years because of COVID. The EIC program is one of the largest anti-poverty programs the government runs. The IRS offered this option for individuals who had reduced income during the pandemic. In this case, using 2019's earned income increased her refund by another \$850. This client's story is not unique. This year our volunteers prepared over 360 tax returns which netted over \$570,000 in refunds, including \$197,000 refunded through Earned Income Tax Credits.

Programs like this would not be possible without the support of our donors. We can significantly impact those who come through our doors, thanks to your help.

To see ways that you can help give back to your community, [check out our donation page. >>](#)

Exciting news

Boots & Blues is 3 Weeks Away!

We invite you to join us for a casual, outdoor gathering of friends to celebrate 30 years of community support. Let the sounds of the ocean and blues music fill your night. Enjoy Southern fare and dancing while sipping lemonade or something from the cash bar. Together, we will toast to all the lives you've impacted over the years.

Individual tickets start at \$100.

Interested in becoming a sponsor? Contact our Director of Development [Chris Nazareth](#)

To purchase tickets, head over to our [Boots & Blues site >>](#)



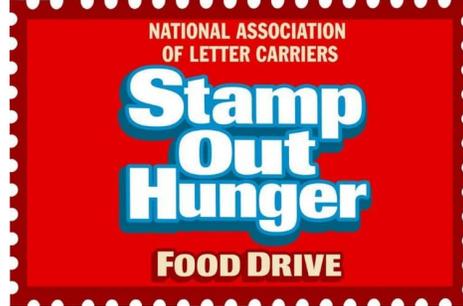
How you can help

Stamp Out Hunger is this Weekend!

Don't forget to leave a bag of non-perishable goods (no glass or expired

items, please!) by your mailbox this Saturday, May 14, for your postal worker to collect!

The need for food assistance is great right now. Please consider supporting your community this Saturday.



[See our Top 10 most needed food pantry items >>](#)

Hosting a Thrift Drive is Easier than Ever!

Thrift Shop drives are easy to organize and are a great way to pull a company, congregation, school groups, or any group together to help make a difference in our community.



If you are looking for ideas of what kind of items to collect during a drive, our Thrift Shop is currently looking for donations of housewares.

To get started planning your own Thrift Drive, check out our [Thrift Drive Kit! >>](#)

Thank you!

Essex Tech Shops For A Good Cause!

Recently, students at [Essex Agricultural and Technical High School](#) hosted a school-wide clothing drive during Kindness Month in April. They did an amazing job collecting donations for the Thrift Shop! Enough to fill an entire bus! After the flurry of activity unloading the bags from the bus, they took time out to shop! Thank you to all the students and teachers who participated! Your generosity will go a long way in helping those we serve.



Beverly High School Sports Teams Step Up!

Beverly Bootstraps has seen a big increase in folks needing support at our

food pantry, and Beverly High School spring sports teams have been helping! Teams were assigned a specific item from our [TOP 10 list](#) to help us fill the pantry shelves, and then they got to work!

So far, we have received donations from: Girls Lacrosse (pasta); Boys Baseball (mac & cheese); Girls Tennis (canned soup); Girls Softball (canned veggies); Girls Outdoor Track (canned fruit). With other team drives in the works!



A huge thank you to the Beverly High School spring sports teams for helping support our Food Pantry's growing need.

If your team or organization is interested in hosting a food drive, please email fooddrives@beverlybootstraps.org. We would love to talk with you!

Beverly Rotary Club Foundation Grants Client Assistance Funds

Beverly Bootstraps was recently awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Beverly Rotary Club. This generous grant will aid our case management program and offer housing assistance to our clients. Thank you for being a wonderful community partner!



Beverly Rotary Club

Project Y Produces Successful Food Collection!

Thanks to the volunteers at [Project Y](#), who worked this past Project Y day to collect donations from various Beverly grocery stores. Their great work will help benefit those in need in our community. Thank you!



Happenings

Stamp Out Hunger Saturday, May 14, 2022

NALC's [Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive](#) is this weekend! Remind your family, friends, and neighbors to leave a bag of nonperishable food by their mailbox on Saturday, May 14, and their letter carrier will handle the rest! All donated food stays within the local community. Learn more [here](#).

Dino and Dragon Stroll - Stomp out Hunger Drive

Saturday, May 14, and Sunday, May 15, 2022

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Topsfield Fairground

Come and experience prehistoric dinosaurs from the Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous periods with this walk-thru exhibit. It's a must-see as you can get up close to massive dinosaurs and dragons, some standing over 28 feet tall and over 60 feet long! Sensory-friendly time slots are available for anyone interested. Everyone attending is encouraged to bring a food donation to help "Stomp Out Hunger." Beverly Bootstraps is proud to have been chosen as the local partner to benefit children and families in need.

[Get your tickets today >>](#)

Touch-A-Truck

Sunday, May 15, 2022, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Beverly High School, 100 Sohler Road, Beverly MA

The Annual [Touch-A-Truck Event](#) is a unique, interactive, one-day event held in Beverly during National Public Works Week. This event allows children to see, touch and explore their favorite big trucks and vehicles and meet the personnel who protect and serve the Beverly community. During the event, [Beverly Public Services](#) and Beverly Bootstraps will be co-hosting a food drive to benefit those in need in our community!

Boots & Blues

Thursday, June 2, 2022, at 6:30 pm

Misselwood at Endicott College 407 Hale Street, Beverly, MA

Join us for a casual, outdoor gathering of friends to celebrate 30 years of community support. Let the sounds of the ocean and blues music fill your night. Enjoy Southern fare and dancing while sipping lemonade or something from the cash bar. Together, we will toast to all the lives you've impacted over the years. Individual tickets start at \$100.

[Purchase tickets >>](#)

To learn more, click on these handy links:

Volunteer ▶

Host a drive ▶

Events ▶

Visit our site ▶

Contact us ▶

BB News ▶

Beverly Bootstraps has always been committed to social justice. Helping people who might not have their basic needs met or an opportunity to avail themselves of education, for whatever reason or life story, is at the core of our mission.

We proudly serve, work with and employ individuals regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion, or nationality. Further, we ask our community and world to do better and work towards justice and equal

opportunities.

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Connect with us

