



COMMUNITY SERVINGS

DELIVERING MEALS, DELIVERING HOPE

Community Servings is Greater Boston's free, home-delivered meals program for individuals and families ill with acute life-threatening illnesses.

Our History

- In January 1990, we delivered our first hot meal.
- In March 1992, we opened a small kitchen in Dorchester.
- In June 1997, Community Servings moved to a new, industrial kitchen in Roxbury.
- In January 1999, we expanded delivery to Cambridge and Somerville.
- In November 2000, we began delivering lunch in addition to dinner each day.
- In November 2003, we expanded delivery to 10 new cities and towns in Greater Boston
- In June 2004, Community Servings expanded our mission to include individuals and families struggling with any type of acute life-threatening illness, such as cancer, multiple sclerosis, Lou Gehrig's disease and lupus.
- In June 2007, Community Servings relocated to a state-of-the-art nutrition facility in Jamaica Plain. This move will allow us to double our daily meal capacity and to reach more underserved communities throughout eastern Massachusetts.

As we celebrate 17 years in operation this year, we have served more than 3 million free meals to the critically ill since 1990, helping those from Boston's most disenfranchised communities fight hunger and illness. Each day Community Servings delivers 1,350 lunches and dinners to 675 women, men and children affected by a life-threatening illness. Our geographic service area spans more than 188 square miles and includes the cities and towns of: Boston, Braintree, Brockton Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Lawrence, Lynn, Malden, Medford, Quincy, Randolph, Revere, Somerville, Weymouth, and Winthrop.

Thanks to volunteers and donors, our service and delivery model is extremely efficient. It only costs \$5 per day to provide lunch and dinner to one client.

Our Mission

Community Servings provides free home-delivered meals throughout eastern Massachusetts to people homebound with acute life-threatening illnesses who are unable to shop or cook for themselves. We provide our clients, their dependent families, and caregivers appealing, nutritious meals, reaching out to those in greatest need. Our goals are to help our clients maintain their health and dignity, provide nutritionally and culturally appropriate meals, preserve the integrity of their family, and send the message that someone cares.

Our Clients

Our clients come from very diverse backgrounds and represent many different ethnicities. 95% live below, at or just above the poverty level, 56% are men, 44% are women. 63% of our meals go to people of color, including African-American, Latino, Haitian, and Cape Verdean clients. Children and families receive 40% of our meals, and 63% of their caregivers are single parents.

The Need

Through our service, we stand with our clients as they confront the biggest crisis of their lives: battling an illness that is life-threatening. Our medically-tailored meals, nutritional support, and daily contact have an immediate impact on our clients, many of whom would be hungry and alone without us. As medically-tailored nutrition keeps them healthier for longer periods of time, we help our clients avoid hospitalization and an accelerated decline in their health, keeping families together longer. For our clients who are never able to leave our meals service due to deteriorating health, we give them dignity as they pass out of life by enabling them to stay at home for as long as possible. The demand for our meals continues to grow as the number of people homebound with an acute life-threatening illness increases.