



Manna Works

Uplifting News About A Caring Community

Spring/Summer 2022

Dear Friends,

It is with much joy that I listen to the sounds around Manna. The clatter of shopping carts pushed by Market shoppers choosing their groceries; volunteers cheerfully greeting diners sitting down for a hot meal in Manna's Kitchen; the whoosh of the Common Ground Café espresso machine as a trainee learns the art of making a latte. How welcome these sounds of normal operations are after over two years of pivoting and modifying operations to safely stay open for the families and individuals that need Manna's services.

In 2021, Manna turned 40. At the **40th Anniversary Celebration** held in May, we celebrated the capacity and community support built over those years that saw us through the last two. Now, building on that capacity and support, Manna has launched a new, bold **10-year Campaign: A North Penn Where No One Is Hungry.**

This campaign is a promise to those who need and will need us: We will provide you emergency food quickly, it will be appropriate to your dietary needs and cultural preferences, and it will be done with the dignity that every individual deserves.

This campaign is an invitation to Manna's supporters: Stand with us with resolve to meet this bold goal by providing financial support, food donations and volunteer service so that together we will end hunger in the North Penn region. Your help is needed now as we work to take Manna to a whole new level of service and reach more of our neighbors in need.

Please use the enclosed envelope or the QR code to give today. Thank you!

With deep gratitude for all you have done and will do for those we serve,

Suzan

Suzan Neiger Gould
Executive Director



From left: Sheldon C. Good, Director of Development and Strategic Direction; Suzan Neiger Gould, Executive Director; and Governor Tom Wolf.



GIVE NOW!
Scan this QR code
or click here
to donate to Manna..

12-MONTH PROGRAM IMPACT June 2021 – May 2022



MANNA'S KITCHEN

- 62,118 meals served



MANNA'S MARKET

- 763,431 pounds of groceries distributed
- 17,119 market visits
- 1,136 households received groceries, benefitting 3,188 people



EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- \$133,548 of Manna funds stewarded to assist 142 households
- \$5,481,902 of federal funds stewarded to assist 979 households



MANNA'S COMMON GROUNDS TRAINING PROGRAM

- 22 participants and 18 graduates

Manna on Main Street is committed to ending hunger in the North Penn region by providing food, fulfilling social service and education needs, and conducting community outreach. Through a food pantry and soup kitchen, emergency financial aid, counseling and referrals, and education opportunities, we serve those in need with the hope "that everyone might be fed."

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Manna's 40th Anniversary Celebration and Campaign Launch



On May 12, Manna on Main Street held its 40th Anniversary Celebration and Campaign Launch in the lobby of North Penn Commons in Lansdale. This ticketed event was an opportunity to celebrate Manna's first 40 years and all of the success and impact that Manna – with the generous support of the community – has had in its work to end hunger in the North Penn region. We enjoyed multiple performances by local artists, presentations from honored guests, a film about Manna's impact and a delicious dinner prepared and served by Manna's culinary staff and Common Grounds Training Program trainees and graduates.



In addition to celebrating all the hard work of Manna and its many stakeholders and partners over the past 40 years, we looked ahead by announcing the launch of a 10-year Campaign: A North Penn Where No One Is Hungry. See the next page for information about the campaign.



Manna's 10-year Campaign

At Manna on Main Street, we believe no one should be forced to go hungry. No one, no matter who you are or where you live, should be forced to go without food, especially in the second wealthiest county in Pennsylvania.

Over the last 40 years, Manna has grown from its humble beginnings in the basement of St. John's United Church of Christ to now serve over 5,000 people annually. Every step of the way, the local community has stood with and supported us, helping us become the North Penn region's largest nonprofit working to end hunger.

Over the past two years, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated food insecurity across the country, including in Montgomery County. Feeding America estimates that in 2021 the food insecurity rate in Montgomery County rose to 8.3%, meaning over 71,000 of our neighbors lack consistent access to enough food to live an active, healthy life.

Amid this rise in food insecurity, Manna has adapted and scaled programs in ways we hadn't even imagined were possible. We have proven our capacity to more deeply serve those in need of emergency food and other critical resources such as emergency rental assistance and workforce development training.

Now, we believe the fulfillment of why Manna was created—"that everyone might be fed"—is within reach. Together, we can create "a North Penn where no one is hungry."

This bold 10-year campaign will take Manna to a whole new level of growth so we can serve even more of our neighbors in need.

For more information about the campaign, visit our website at www.mannaonmain.org.



10-year Campaign: A NORTH PENN WHERE NO ONE IS HUNGRY



Food that is accessible, healthy, culturally appropriate and supportive of dietary requirements of all people in need.



Food delivery systems that are immediately responsive to households with emergency food needs.



A strong, sustainable organization that cultivates collaboration among all stakeholders and partners.

Workforce development training, financial assistance and wraparound services that improve food security.

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION:

A diverse, equitable, inclusive organization that increases access, dignity and community.



Scan this QR code or [click here](#) to view a short film describing Manna's 10-year campaign, featuring Manna's impact on the lives of Karen and Ed Bade and Virgil Pearson.

Thank You to Our 11th Annual Race to End Hunger Sponsors



Bringing More to the Table.



The Michelson Family



Megan and Robert Hausler



Teamsters 384

Walter J. Drill Optometry



Ochotny Wealth Management



Thomas Insurance Group

Vira Katolik



Complete Home Renovations
GoVolpe.com - 610-539-6730

Common Grounds Café is Now Open

Jumpstart your day at Manna's Common Grounds Café!

After being closed for more than two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the café reopened to the public on June 13. Trainees in Manna's Common Grounds Training Program are once again serving beverages and baked goods in our café.

The café is currently open from 9am to 1pm Monday through Thursday and is located in the North Penn Commons lobby at 606 East Main Street in Lansdale.

The current menu features beverages and baked goods: hot and iced beverages such as lattes, mochas and teas, as well as baked goods such as muffins and cookies.

Every dollar spent at the café benefits the Common Grounds Training Program, Manna's workforce development program for individuals seeking to advance their career in foodservice.

Common Grounds trainees, under the leadership of café manager Nick Heishman, operate the café as part of their 8-week experience in Common Grounds Training Program. The café provides an opportunity for trainees to practice customer service skills, prepare and serve individual orders and operate a point-of-sale system.

We hope to see you soon at the café!



Manna's Kitchen Reintroduces Sit-down Meals

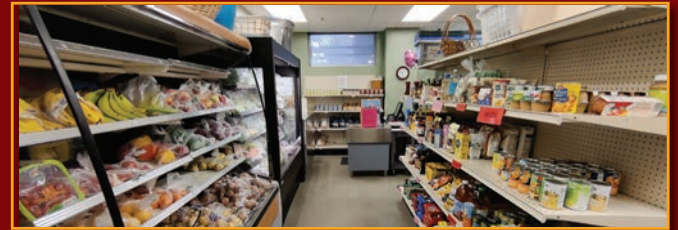
Manna's Kitchen is now offering both to-go meals and sit-down meals.

Manna's soup kitchen has been preparing and distributing to-go meals since March 2020, one of multiple program adaptations that was necessary at the time. Over the past two years — and in our recent client survey — we have learned how important to-go meals are for many Manna clients.

On May 2, we began serving sit-down hot meals four days per week for anyone in need. Meanwhile, we continue to prepare and distribute to-go meals seven days per week. This hybrid approach — of providing to-go meals and sit-down meals — is in direct response to an important lesson learned during the pandemic and an effort to meet the varied needs of our clients.

To-go meals and sit-down meals feature a wide variety of food, including vegetarian and non-pork options. Manna volunteers and culinary staff prepare the meals using food that has been donated to Manna.

Hours for Manna's Kitchen are available at www.mannaonmain.org.



Manna's Market Reintroduces Full In-person Shopping

Manna's Market shoppers can now choose full in-person shopping or online ordering.

For nearly two years, Manna's food pantry adapted in various ways to allow shoppers to receive groceries in a safe, dignified way. For much of this time, shoppers received pre-bagged non-perishable food while still being able to choose their perishable food including fresh fruits and vegetables, meat or vegetarian proteins, and dairy and dairy-free milks. In December, Manna reintroduced online ordering, which provides shoppers the convenience of ordering in the morning and picking up their order later that same day. Notably, our online ordering system is translated into the seven primary languages of our shoppers in addition to English.

As of May 2, Manna's Market has returned to welcoming shoppers to full in-person shopping, which provides individuals and families robust choice of groceries in our food pantry. Manna is known for offering full choice of food to our neighbors in need and we are excited to be doing so once again.

Hours for Manna's Market are available at www.mannaonmain.org.



WHAT IS NEEDED

In addition to financial donations, Manna is always in need of donations of food and other essential household items. To see our list of what we need most, [click here](#) or scan this QR code:



Thank You to Our Grant Funders!

- Bank of America Charitable Foundation
- Capital One
- Claneil Foundation
- Connelly Foundation
- Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation
- Dow Chemical Foundation
- Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- Enterprise Holdings Foundation
- Genuardi Family Foundation
- The Grandom Institution
- The GT Foundation
- Holman Enterprises
- Independence Foundation
- Leo and Peggy Pierce Family Foundation
- Lindback Foundation
- Merck Foundation
- MontcoStrong Non-Profit Resiliency & Restoration Grant Program
- The Montgomery County Foundation
- Nationwide Foundation
- Penn Community Foundation
- Pfizer, Inc.
- Philabundance
- Plains Mennonite Church
- SEI Cares Fund
- Starbucks Foundation
- Stratton Foundation
- TD Charitable Foundation
- Triumph Group, Inc.
- United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey
- VNA Foundation of Greater North Penn
- Walmart Foundation
- Wawa Foundation
- Windmill Foundation
- WSFS CARES Foundation