

Loaves & fishes



Spring 2018

Lend an Ear

I love that I get to ask a lot of questions - the kind where I learn more about our guests, volunteers and donors. I especially enjoy asking new donors how they heard of Loaves and Fishes and why they decided to support our mission. My favorite answer is "I want to help those in need."

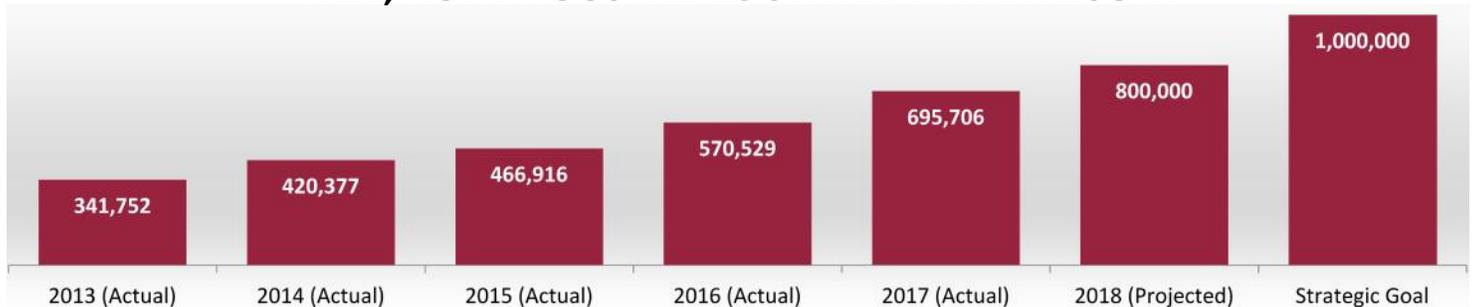
Over the past 4½ years we have made great strides. Our meal counts are up 104%. We now have over 10,000 volunteers compared to 5,000 and call an 8,000-square-foot warehouse our home after starting in a church attic. In 2013, we operated 10 "open to the public" dining sites; today, we operate 26 sites. We also now partner with after-school programs to provide healthy meals and snacks, serve summer meals to children, and provide over 4,000 grab-n-go meals every week to homeless individuals through our street outreach program.

While our numbers are impressive and help us make good data-driven decisions, it is stories from guests that truly fuel and inspire. One happened just a few weeks back. A staff member was at a dining site and recognized a couple who entered. He knew them from church and was aware that their financial situation was dire. They candidly shared that without our meals they could not make ends meet and our food gave them renewed energy and hope to put the pieces of their life back together.

I am very honored to serve, give and listen. Please join me!

CATHY MAES Executive Director

FREE, NUTRITIOUS MEALS SERVED IN MINNESOTA



When Tyrone joined us for lunch, a big smile came across our Site Coordinator's face as she greeted him with a friendly hello! She then asked where he had been. With an equally warm smile, he proudly responded that he recently found a job and was again working full time. After a fellow Loaves and Fishes' guest told him about the job opening, he immediately took action. Loaves and Fishes is more than just a meal, it is a place where community comes together and friendships are made.

(LISTEN) to our donors...

"I am impressed with Loaves and Fishes and the outreach they provide, and I am passionate about EVERYONE having good food to eat."

"I love hearing that food is not wasted!"

"I read the *Star Tribune* article this morning and was interested by both feeding the homeless and food waste reduction."

"You do good work."

"I read the article in the *Mpls. St. Paul Magazine* and fell in love with what you do!"

"I was inspired by the article in today's paper regarding your partnership with MSP and the cleverness of sharing food from airport vendors to those with need - especially sharing healthy foods like pre-packed salads."

"I have been looking for an organization that helps homeless people to make a donation to this year. Thank you for the work you do."



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT featuring a CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, April 22
721 Kasota Ave SE, Minneapolis
2:00—4:00 pm

Help us celebrate our record-breaking **695,706** meals served in 2017! We could not have done this without our volunteers!

Optional: Compete in the Chili Cook-Off and win prizes!

To enter, email: events@loavesandfishesmn.org



Loaves and Fishes is competing in this year's Brackets for Good (BFG) competition! Each week in March, we will compete against another Minnesota nonprofit. The nonprofit that raises the most money each round advances in a bracket-style tournament. The organization that advances to the end is awarded a donation of \$10,000!

With special support by: tempworks SOFTWARE

Tournament starts Friday, March 2

HELP US WIN \$10,000

Donate: Write "Brackets for Good" on the memo line of the check you write today
Follow the campaign on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/loavesandfishesmn/>
Share our website: www.loavesandfishesmn.org with your friends and ask them to donate

UPCOMING EVENTS



Unmapped Brewing Company
14625 Excelsior Blvd, Minnetonka
Sunday, March 11 | 3:00 - 5:00 pm

BINGO | MEAT RAFFLES | DOOR PRIZES

\$1/bingo card or \$10/12 bingo cards

Thank you to our supporters:

Pizza



Brownies



Beverages



Sponsored By:

Saturday, April 14th, 7 pm

The Food Building
1401 Marshall St.
NE Minneapolis



Heavy Appetizers | Delicious Desserts
Wine, Beer and Beverages
Live Music by Geoffrey Fischbein
A Fun Event for Everyone!

\$50 Per Person | Casual Attire
To purchase a ticket, email events@loavesandfishesmn.org or call Patti at 612.392.5881



Wednesday, June 6 2018

Mark your calendar and eat out on Wednesday, June 6 when restaurants around the Twin Cities will donate a percentage of sales to us. List of restaurants will be featured on Loaves and Fishes website soon.

Do you own a restaurant or know of one that would like to participate?

Contact: Patti Sinykin
psinykin@loavesandfishesmn.org
612.392.5881

721 Kasota Ave. SE Minneapolis, MN 55414 | 612.377.9810 | www.loavesandfishesmn.org

695,706 meals served in 2017 with the help of 10,000 volunteers.



Allegra Mpls. and Liberty Envelope helped with this mailing