

## Loaves & Fishes

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3), non profit organization providing food to those in need. Chartered in 1983 by St. Andrew's Church and the Federated Church, both of Ayer, Loaves & Fishes is supported by churches, businesses, community groups, and individuals in local communities.

Loaves & Fishes is managed by a Board of Trustees (all volunteers), an Executive Director, a Client Advocate and a Site Administrator (all part-time staff positions) with the help of over 250 active volunteers including the Bemis Associates IT staff. Volunteers work in all capacities necessary to run the pantry—doing everything from outreach to PR to data entry to stocking the shelves each week.

The work of Loaves & Fishes is possible only through the generous contributions of groups and individuals in the community. In addition, Loaves & Fishes receives 2/3 of the funds raised by the Good Friday Walk in Harvard, and is funded by a variety of grants, including Project Bread, United Way of North Central Massachusetts, and FEMA.

We have never had to turn away anyone in our area of service who was in need of food. We are committed to continue this tradition with your help and support.

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*There are those in our midst who are hungry. The reasons are varied but the need is the same. Loaves & Fishes recognizes and responds to that need.*



Loaves & Fishes  
P.O. Box 1  
Ayer, MA 01432

May 2007



Loaves & Fishes exists as a mission of faith to serve people of Ayer, Devens, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley by providing food, emergency shelter, resource referral and other temporary services, and by advocating for changes by its clients that will promote independence and self-reliance.

Loaves & Fishes  
234 Barnum Road  
Devens, MA

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1  
Ayer, MA 01432

978-722-4627  
[www.devenspantry.org](http://www.devenspantry.org)  
[tohelp@devenspantry.org](mailto:tohelp@devenspantry.org)

# D O N A T I O N S

## Assistance Provided

Since 1982 Loaves & Fishes has provided food and other necessities to people who have an immediate need, assisting over 3,500 different families over the past 25 years. We provide services to approximately 400 households each month.

Loaves & Fishes gratefully acknowledges our sponsors and donors. We are able to offer services due to the generous spirit of those both inside and outside of our community.

## Towns Served

Loaves & Fishes serves the towns and communities of Ayer, Devens, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley.

## Open Pantry Hours

234 Barnum Road  
Devens  
978-772-4627

Wednesday and Friday  
9:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.\*

1st and 3rd Saturday of each month  
8:45 – 11:00 a.m.\*

2nd Tuesday of each month  
6 – 8 p.m.\*

Closed when Ayer schools are  
closed or delayed

Call 978-772-4627x6 to determine if the pantry has been closed for any other reason.

*\*Clients must arrive 30 minutes before the end of the session or they will receive prepacked groceries.*

*Loaves & Fishes provides an opportunity for you to respond to the need for food in your community.*

## Donate Goods

Non-perishable food items are always needed. Our most current needs are updated regularly on our website. Those that are especially helpful are:

- canned meats • white sugar • pasta
- spaghetti sauce • cereals • pancake mix
- mayonnaise and ketchup • coffee • jelly
- instant coffee • fruit juice • baby food

Non-food items are also needed such as:

- health/personal care items • diapers (3-6)
- detergent • soap • toilet paper • shampoo

Goods can be delivered to Loaves & Fishes during Open Pantry hours listed to the left. There are also special hours for donations only. In addition, there are drop-off spots in many locations. Go to our website or call for more information. Items are welcome in any amount—a few at a time, a bag full, or a truck load!

## Donate Time

Volunteers are needed in a variety of capacities throughout the year. There are opportunities to help on a regular basis, as well as special projects. Please call, email or visit our website for more information.

## Sponsor a Drive

Businesses and organizations such as churches, schools, community groups and scouts sponsor drives to provide a welcome source of food. For more information on how to help in this way, email [drives@devenspantry.org](mailto:drives@devenspantry.org).

## Donate Money

Consistent cash donations are needed to pay for the normal operating expenses of running the food pantry. Most of our money is used to purchase food from the Greater Boston Food Bank, from stores or suppliers of perishable goods or from supermarkets when supplies are unacceptably low. We also supply emergency housing for the homeless as needed. As our budget allows, we provide “campership/enrichment” programs for the children of our clients, special holiday programs, and other emergency assistance.

The best way to help is by becoming a regular donor by writing a check on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or yearly basis. Join others by making Loaves & Fishes your charity of choice to help your own neighbors. Make it a habit.

Other important ways to help include:

- Holding a food drive
- Holding a fundraiser
- Asking your employer about Matching Gifts

## We Are Neighbors Helping Neighbors in Our Own Backyard

If you are in need of help, or know someone in need of help, please contact us. The only requirement to receive pantry services is that you be a resident of one of the towns we serve (Ayer, Devens, Groton, Harvard, Littleton, Shirley). For information and updated pantry news and needs, visit [www.devenspantry.org](http://www.devenspantry.org) or call 978-772-4627.

**To receive our newsletter, contact:**

[development@devenspantry.org](mailto:development@devenspantry.org)

**To volunteer, contact:**

[tohelp@devenspantry.org](mailto:tohelp@devenspantry.org)