



The Berkshire Food Project seeks to alleviate hunger, food insecurity, and social isolation by serving healthy, no cost meals and connecting people to other resources, all in a dignified and respectful manner.

Our Biggest News This Month



Thanks to MASS MoCA, we have received two billboards on River Street at the UNO Park. The kind staff at MASS MoCA designed the billboards and did all the work - and we are thrilled with them!

This is an exciting way for us to remind the community that we are here - whether people are looking for a place to eat, volunteer or donate. It's a reminder that ALL are welcome at our table every weekday too.

The billboard on the left features some of our regular volunteers. We have many wonderful volunteers and it was just by chance that it was the terrific Tuesday morning crew that happened to be in the kitchen the day we took the photo.

Thank you Erika, Lesa, Susan, Kevin and Valerie for representing all of the wonderful BFP volunteers!

Our Annual Fundraising Letter

Each year we check in with the community and remind them that local donations are what keeps the Berkshire Food Project open. If you have not recently received the letter, you can read it by clicking [here](#). We always welcome you to stop in and see us in action, or to share your thoughts with us. If you have questions about the Berkshire Food Project, we would love to answer them. You can e-mail us at info@berkshirefoodproject.org or call us at 413-664-7378. And we are on [Facebook](#) - you can message us there too! Click on Facebook icon below to go to our page.



We really do rely on donations to for our expenses - rent, utilities, kitchen supplies, office supplies, payroll, insurance and more. We operate on a lean budget and take time to ensure that every dollar we spend is being spent wisely. That said, it's not cheap to prepare and serve over 35,000 meals every year.

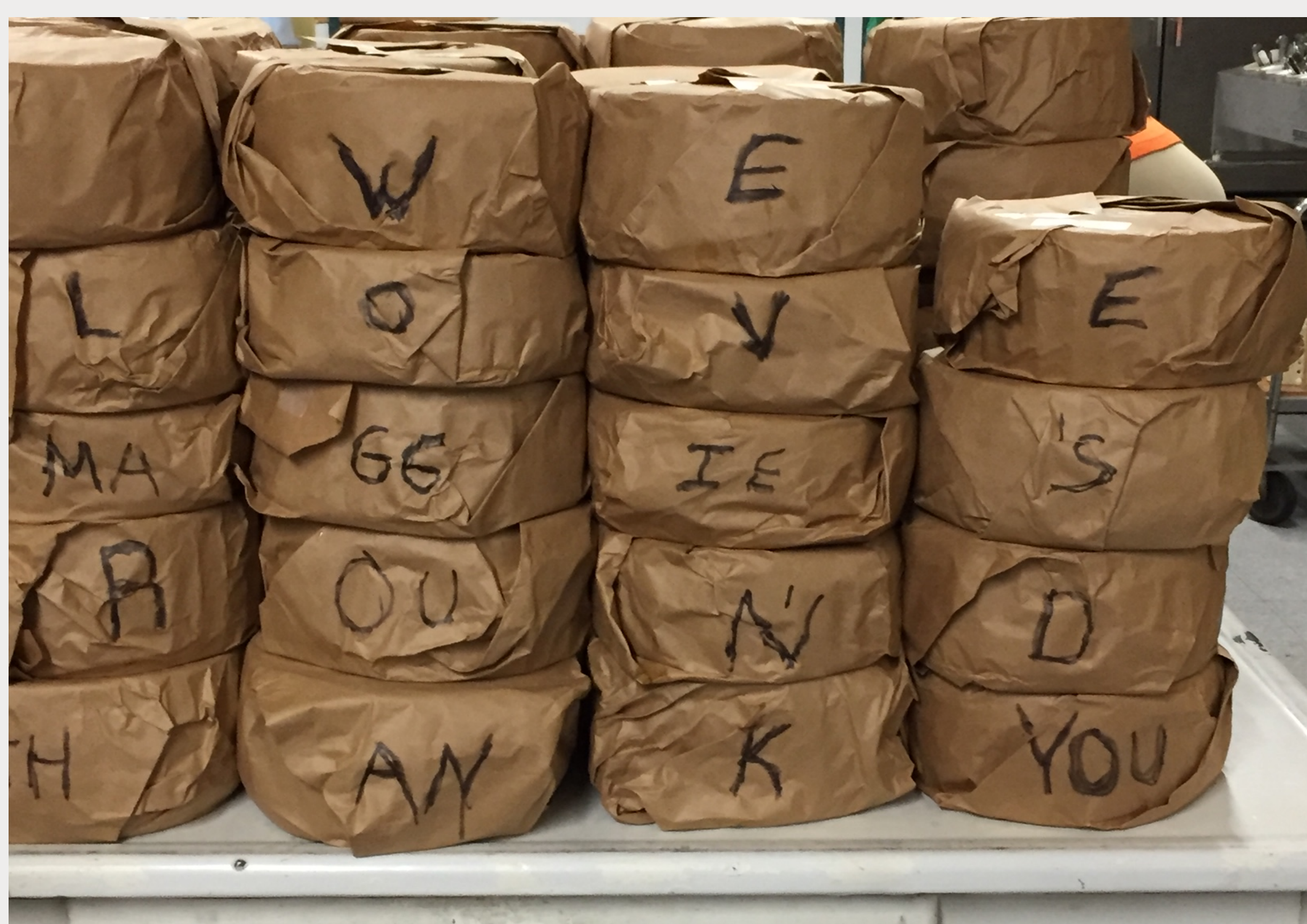
Our membership in the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts does make it possible for us to access quite a bit of free food from USDA and MEFAP as well as many corporate donors like Walmart, Cumberland Farms and Big Y. There are still many food items we have to purchase, and donations don't always come exactly when you need them. Some items simply are not regularly available by donation - cooking oil, salad dressing, spices and coffee, for example.

Other costs are simply not negotiable - insurance for example, and kitchen supplies used to sanitize and test the dishwater. Paper products and cleaning products are regular expenses. Maintenance of appliances is an ongoing expense as well - we have four freezers, four refrigerators, a range with two ovens and ten burners - all need regular maintenance/repairs. We also have expenses related to our tenancy of over 30 years in the First Congregational Church - utilities, rent and shared cost of some repairs and building maintenance. And while we have wonderful volunteers who spend over 1,000 hours in our kitchen and dining room each month, we still have a staff for the management and daily operations of our organization.

If you would like to know more about our operations or about the many local organizations supporting us, please call and talk to Kim McMann, Executive Director at 664-7378.

Thank You Cricket Creek Farm and Ramunto's Brick Oven Pizza of North Adams

Every now and then Cricket Creek Farm gets a little ahead of themselves and the Berkshire Food Project is the lucky recipient of many pounds of Maggie's Round Cheese. Look at all those FULL ROUNDS of Maggie's Round Cheese. And then, our awesome community partners at Ramunto's in North Adams let us use their amazing cheese grater to get the cheese grated for Mac and Cheese, topping salad and pasta, and more. This is why our Mac and Cheese is SOOO good! Thank You Cricket Creek and Ramunto's!



Experience the Arts With Us

Our two sessions of painting with MCLA Professor Melanie Mowinski and her art students have been incredible! Our ten diners who have participated have created beautiful paintings which will be exhibited at a pre-performance reception on Friday Night at Pang! The reception is at 5:30 PM this Friday, November 1, 2019 at the Church Street Center Auditorium on the MCLA campus. The performance is immediately following right there at the Church Street Center. And immediately after the performance there will be a discussion about food insecurity.

In case you missed the details - Pang! is a performance of three short radio plays written in collaboration with people living with food insecurity in LA, Miami and Detroit. Director/Actor Dan Froot and his cast have traveled from Los Angeles to present the stories.

Please consider joining us Friday night - it's going to be a fantastic evening!



We serve lunch every weekday from noon until 1 PM. Our doors open at 11:30 AM for snacks and beverages. There is NO criteria and no questions asked. Join us any weekday!

Are you coming from Williamstown?

You can arrange A FREE ROUNDTrip RIDE any Tuesday or Thursday.

Call by Monday of the week during which you want a ride - 413-458-9831. Tell the operator you want to arrange a free ride to the Berkshire Food Project.

Use the ride service Tuesday AND Thursday if you would like - there's no limit!

For more information you can also call Kim at 413-664-7378. For a ride call 413-458-9831.

Rides provided by a grant from the Fund for Williamstown of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

We welcome new volunteers and will work with you to find the perfect spot in our crew. Shifts take place between 9 AM and 2 PM on weekdays, but you pick how long and which hours, you pick the day(s).

[Click here for volunteer application.](#)

The Berkshire Food Project • 134 Main Street, PO Box 651 • North Adams, MA 01247 • 413-664-7378

Kim McMann, Executive Director • Darlene Ellis, Kitchen Manager
info@berkshirefoodproject.org

www.berkshirefoodproject.org