

# Feeding Chittenden April 2022 Newsletter

### **April is Volunteer Appreciation Month!**

We are thrilled to celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Month, a chance to showcase the incredible people who routinely donate their time and energy to make sure that everyone in Chittenden county and greater Vermont has the food they need. Feeding Chittenden wouldn't operate without the efforts of our community, and we are so excited to spotlight their impact.



"Volunteers are essential to our work. They support our efforts in so many ways, but more importantly,

they bring energy, perspective, and breathe life into our daily operations," says Volunteer & Special Events Coordinator Angela deBettencourt. "As an employee, I feel lucky to be able to engage with this incredible group of people who give up their time and resources to support our community, especially in COVID times. Our volunteers and their generosity are truly an inspiration!"

Throughout the month of April, we will be sharing stories and photos about the people who voluntarily contribute to our mission. Thank you, volunteers!

### "A Taste of Home: Nonprofits Deliver Culturally-Appropriate Food to Afghan Refugees"



Feeding Chittenden recipient Hedayat Arya was recently interviewed by NECN and NBC10 Boston, speaking on his experience as a part of the community of Afghan refugees who have recently settled in Vermont. Feeding Chittenden has partnered with the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) to provide foods that are culturally-relevant to these new Americans.

"Feeding Chittenden is doing an outstanding job, because when a new arrival is coming, initially they don't have access to the markets," Arya said. "It's somehow giving a feeling to them that you are safe—that there is no food insecurity for you."

We are grateful for the opportunity to help welcome the families and individuals like Hedayat Arya. <u>To view the original story</u>, <u>please click here.</u>



#### You're Invited! | Masquerade Party to Benefit Feeding Chittenden

Dust off those dancing shoes! You are cordially invited to a masquerade party, sponsored by Martin's Coins & Jewelry, Vermont Mortgage, VSECU, and the Black Brothers.

Thursday, May 26th, 2022 from 7-11pm at the Atrium at The Essex. Cash bar, formal dress.

All donations and proceeds benefit Feeding Chittenden.



## The Community Kitchen Academy Seeks Students for its Next Session

Are you interested in honing your craft in the kitchen? The Community Kitchen Academy is accepting students for its next 7-week session!

Operated in partnership between Feeding Chittenden and the Vermont Foodbank, the Community Kitchen Academy is a culinary job training program that helps students develop professional and inter-personal skills needed to find and retain employment in the hospitality industry.

The program's tuition is completely covered, and the next session begins in May!







We are still seeing a significant increase in community members needing our services and expect that number to continue to grow. Supporters of Feeding Chittenden who give on a monthly basis join our Full Plate Club! These invested community members prioritize and sustain our work fighting hunger within Chittenden county and greater Vermont. Consistent gifts provide reliable funding to our programs year-round, ensuring that our recipients can count on access to the food they need, whenever they may need it. When you join the Full Plate Club, you are making a promise to fight hunger in your community and stand by your neighbors in need. Your generosity each month helps

to expand access, create choice, minimize stigma, and reduce waste.

#### To join the Full Plate Club, please click here.

#### Follow Us on Social Media & Check out our Blog!

Stay up to date on all things Feeding Chittenden and see how your support makes change in our community!



**Feeding Chittenden Blog** 

Feeding Chittenden is a program of



Bridging gaps, building futures.

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