

# FULL PLATES

Winter 2022



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**FEEDING**  
*Chittenden*



**FEEDING**  
Chittenden

*Hits the Road!*

**COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS**



Feeding Chittenden's Student Pantry at Community College of Vermont Winooski serves **50-60 students per day**



**310 holiday meal kits** delivered for Thanksgiving



Pantry staples distributed to **25 households per month** taking part in the Intervale FairShare Program



Custom grocery box orders fulfilled and delivered to **150 households per month** at Head Start through the Food Access Center

**DOORSTEP DELIVERY**

The new Online Market just launched and has served **39 households** with customized grocery boxes delivered to their home



Feeding Chittenden delivers critical groceries to over **21 households** a month who call in need of emergency delivery



The Stay-at-Home program serves over **150 households a month**, delivering custom grocery boxes to the sick and injured, seniors, and those living with a disability



**MEALS ON THE MOVE**



**140 meals a month** go out to the Colchester Food Shelf for distribution



The Stay-at-Home Program delivers an additional **215 hot meals a month**, which accompanies the customized grocery boxes



Feeding Chittenden prepares and delivers **over 240 meals a week** to the Community Resource Center, a daytime warming shelter providing essential resources for those struggling with homeless this frigid winter

*You are a part of 30 years of critical work*

Feeding Chittenden has reached a milestone of 30 years in our current location in the heart of Burlington's Old North End at 228 North Winooski Avenue. This is our third location since we first opened our doors in 1974. Back then, no one could have predicted the unfortunate growth in food insecurity coupled with a world-wide pandemic. Today, we are committed to making this the best service possible for people experiencing hunger and for all of those great people who began this work so long ago.

Since November 2021, we've distributed nearly ten thousand grocery boxes and an additional fifteen thousand meals. Our programs have grown to meet new demands including more home deliveries and online ordering. We've looked at new ways to reach people who do not access charitable food and have formed new partnerships with health care providers and sister non-profits.

*What does this look like in action?* We are currently working with the UVM Children's Hospital so that people who pre-screen for food insecurity can order directly from our inventory. Head Start families are now ordering online and our team is delivering healthy food to children who need it most. And with the help of a network of organizations, we are making culturally relevant foods available to refugees and purchasing from local farmers and specialty stores.

With your support we have been reaching out into the community like never before. Feeding Chittenden's Stay-at-Home program continues to deliver groceries and healthy meals created by our culinary job training students. Emergency grocery deliveries are transported to those in need on a daily basis. Chefs and trainees have provided thousands of meals over the last three months for people who are homeless, to visitors on-site and through deliveries to locations such as the Community Resource Center.

This has been a difficult time in our long history as an organization, but thanks to our dedicated supporters, team of employees and volunteers, we have kept our services open. We are all in this together and we will continue to fight so that no one in our region goes without food.

Thank you from everyone at Feeding Chittenden!

*Rob Meehan*

Rob Meehan  
Director





## YOUR SUPPORT MAKES DREAMS A REALITY

Raven, 25, enrolled in the Community Kitchen Academy class wanting to grow professionally and improve her mental health. Raven and her family moved to Vermont five years ago from the Philippines. Throughout her time in the program, she balanced a full college class schedule and several jobs, but knew that a springboard into professional culinary skills was something she needed.

**"Every decision has its own negatives and positives, but for me, this was a way of standing up and saying 'I did this myself.' ...and joining the Community Kitchen Academy was the best decision I've ever made."**

Raven started her instruction in the kitchen during the pandemic with the hopes of gaining the necessary skills and certification to start her own business. She excelled throughout the seven-week term, learning culinary job training from Chef Jim Logan, as well as business planning advice from the Financial Futures Program at the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Feeding Chittenden's parent organization.

Raven graduated with a goal in mind: opening an online confectionary baking company with an emphasis on classic Filipino flavors. With guidance from Chef Jim, she opened Maritela's Filipino Baked Goods in September of 2021. Her business is named after a combination of Raven's grandmothers' names, Marilou and Otela, whom she cites as two of the most hardworking and dedicated women in her life.



**"The name is traditional for me. I got it from my two grandmothers. They were the pillars of my family: they are hardworkers, very independent. I combined them to make the name of my company, and it's a way of honoring them."**



Raven continues to consult Chef Logan on a regular basis. With Raven's business growing daily, her deliveries have expanded throughout Chittenden County. Raven credits the Community Kitchen Academy for much of her success.

**"When you have a mentor like Chef Jim, who has a deep understanding of taste and texture, it really improves your product...I look back at when I started the program and where I am now, and I'm still trying to fulfill the reason I started with. I know I'll get there—because I'm done with the hard part: actually making it a reality."**



**Your support provides these vital professional opportunities and resources, while simultaneously feeding the community. WE'RE SO THRILLED FOR RAVEN AND HER BAKING BUSINESS, AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING MORE OF HER PROFESSIONAL SUCCESSES!**



# A HOT MEAL ON A COLD DAY, *thanks to you*

During the winter months, the Community Resource Center (CRC) offers essential services to the people of Burlington. Though it has existed as a seasonal warming shelter with access to resources for several years, the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) has expanded services to extend more support to guests. As a low-barrier daytime shelter space, the Resource Center provides access to food, coffee, hygiene products, clothing, as well as computers, phones, and connections to emergency support resources. Feeding Chittenden provides fresh, high-quality hot meals to visitors of the CRC.

**“Feeding Chittenden has been so wonderful to partner with. We give out at least fifty to one hundred meals a day,”** says Abbey Jermyn, Project Coordinator at the Resource Center.

“It really has made so much of an impact for visitors to come and get good quality food that they don’t need to prepare—because when you’re living in a hotel room or a shelter, you don’t always have access to a kitchen, so this has been a really valuable partnership.” These pre-packaged meals are often prepared by the students in Feeding Chittenden’s Community Kitchen Academy, providing a training opportunity that gives back to the community.

**“It’s a place that I feel safe. It helps me so much, every day, just to come here, get coffee, feel clean.... You know that if you are cold, there is a place to go. And people are so nice.”**

This year, the CRC has seen a significant increase in visitors, averaging an estimated 60-80 guests per day—a number that has tripled since 2020. The CRC also receives support from CVOEO’s Community Outreach, Resource and Advocacy (CORA) team, helping to provide outreach and access to services for community members. Visitors to the Resource Center will often receive assistance navigating housing resources, making sure that they have a place to sleep for the night.



**“There must be, approximately right now, a hundred people, sitting around in the street, looking for food and different things...and to have a place like this open is really important to Burlington because Burlington’s homeless population is small enough that it can be worked with, at something like the Resource Center, where the professionals are helping people.”**



**WE ARE PROUD TO PROVIDE FRESH, HOT MEALS TO VISITORS TO THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER.**

Located at the VFW Post 782 at 176 South Winooski Avenue, the CRC is open **daily from 9am - 4pm**. Feeding Chittenden is grateful for the support of our strong community, helping to provide these critical resources to our friends and neighbors in Burlington.

# Ways to Give:

## DONATE ONLINE OR BY CHECK:

Please make checks payable to "Feeding Chittenden".

You can mail your donation to: Feeding Chittenden, PO Box 1594, Burlington VT 05402

*Please contact us if you are interested  
in donating stock or leaving a legacy gift!*

## VOLUNTEER:

As a Feeding Chittenden volunteer, you'll experience opportunities to learn and grow through rewarding roles that fight hunger, such as:

- *Create prepackaged food boxes for on-site grocery distribution*
- *Prep/serve breakfast for the Hot Meal Program (currently to-go)*
- *Help clients sign-in and receive their groceries*
- *Prep and/or deliver groceries*
- *Pick up donations from our local grocery store partners*
- *Unload, weigh, and record food donations as they are delivered*
- *And so much more!*

To learn more and submit a volunteer application go to: [www.feedingchittenden.org](http://www.feedingchittenden.org)

## DONATE FOOD:

Please bring your donations to Feeding Chittenden at 228 North Winooski Ave, Burlington, VT 05401, Monday – Friday from 10AM – 3:30PM.

There will be bins by the garage doors at the far end of the parking lot for you to place your donation in!

*If you are feeling ill or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, we ask that you please wait to bring us your donation.*

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO SEE ALL THE  
WORK YOUR SUPPORT IS MAKING POSSIBLE!



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