

CONTINUING TO SERVE THROUGH COVID

Heather Cassie, Founder and CEO

Despite COVID implications affecting The Table Soup Kitchen Foundation's ministry operations beginning in mid-March 2020, we have been able to continue serving our community without missing a day.

During the initial lockdown, Food Bank guests chose from pre-made boxes of food, while remaining outside. Respecting the need or desire for people to remain home as much as possible, we provided, and have continued to provide, an increased amount of food and value each visit, if needed. Produce has now been available throughout, thanks to our generous sponsors, including Food Rescue partners.

Our sit down Soup Kitchen community dinners moved from our host churches, Trinity United Church, and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, to become take out meals made by volunteers out of our Community Kitchen. Again, more food has been provided to each guest who has come every Monday and Thursday.

While the Exchange Store has closed, off and on, during various time frames due to lockdown, donations have largely been accepted and needs continue to be met. Allowing limited guest numbers, or providing necessities



Above: Soup Kitchen and Food Rescue, Coordinator, Marta Bonelli

like footwear, coats and warm clothes on racks outside, or made available in our Food Bank to help meet guests' needs, has enabled us to continue this service.

Our other ministries have been able to continue as usual through COVID, including our Men's Hostel, Community Kitchen, Love Connection, Food Bank Garden, and Food Rescue. We are very thankful to God for providing the people, the plans, and the resources to continue to meet needs effectively, together with our community.

BOOYAH!



Above, left to right: Josh Barkey, MBRP and Heather Cassie, CEO, The Table Soup Kitchen Foundation

Our Coldest Night of the Year WALK, which took place in February 2021, raised a whopping \$58,910! Despite having gone virtual, our community stepped up registering teams and raising funds like never before. A total of 25 teams with 126 walkers took to the streets in support of the hungry, hurting and homeless. We are super grateful for our fantastic 2021 sponsors as well, including our Lead Sponsor, MBRP Performance Exhaust. Thank you to all involved and to all who sponsored walkers! This is one of our largest fundraising initiatives and we have been blessed once again. Mark your calendars and walk with us February 26th, 2022! Start a team, join a team, or become a sponsor... we look forward to walking with you!

AGM RECAP

Our 2020 Report was presented at our virtual AGM on March 25th and mailed out to all of our 2020 business sponsors. The full report can be found on our website, however, the following are some statistics that may be of

MEALS SERVED	2,380
GUEST VISITS	5,446
AVERAGE WEEKLY BASKETS	134
TOTAL FOOD BASKETS	6,951
ADULT GUESTS	995

CHILD GUESTS	459
HUNTSVILLE'S POPULATION SERVED	5.3%
CALL HUNTSVILLE HOME	72%
FROM 19 SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES	28%
MEALS SERVED BY SOUP KITCHEN	7,363

FOOD BANK GARDEN

It's that time of year when gardeners are prepping and planning their gardens!

Our volunteers are excited about what will grow in our garden and planters and are also encouraging gardeners in the community to "plant a row, grow a row" in their own gardens for our guests. Providing fresh produce is an integral part of our ministry.

Ways to Donate

We always welcome food and financial donations. Due to COVID-19 restrictions please check with us for when we can accept clothing or household items.

CHEQUES can be written to "The Table Soup Kitchen Foundation," and mailed to P.O. Box 5411, Huntsville, ON, P1H 2K7.

ONLINE donations can also be made at www.thetablefoundation.ca.

IN PERSON at our Foundation office, 9 Hanes St., Huntsville, is also an option. A member of our leadership team will be happy to meet you outside. Business hours are Tuesday and Friday between Noon and 3 pm; Saturday 10 am to 1 pm.

THE TABLE MEN'S HOSTEL RE-OPENING SEPTEMBER 2021

The Table Men's Hostel has supported many men who have stayed with us when they couldn't find or access housing.

In order to help us raise much needed funds to continue operating our hostel during the rest of the year, the decision was made to welcome Deerhurst staff to rent our Hostel for accommodation from May 1st until the end of August.

Due to no consistent, committed funding for The Table Men's Hostel, this is the creative approach that we have returned to as it was successful during the same months in 2019.

Deerhurst has been a huge supporter of The Table for years and we are grateful for their partnership to help support our ministries.



Table Talk is a quarterly newsletter sharing news and inspiration from The Table Soup Kitchen Foundation. If you would like to continue receiving our newsletter please email info@thetablefoundation.ca with your email address and we will email you the Summer issue in July 2021. Hard copies available upon request.