# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Message</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spoonfuls’ 2021 Impact</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vendor Partners</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner Spotlight</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Partners</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributors</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financials</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the News</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Social</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get in Touch</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Table of Contents, all buttons, and underlined text throughout this report are linked. Click through to read more!
Steady On. It happens to be the title of a Shawn Colvin song from 1989. It's also a phrase that summarizes Lovin' Spoonfuls' approach to business since our beginning and especially so since the outset of the pandemic.

Here we are, going on three years since Covid-19 entered our vernacular. We have continued to be challenged by the pandemic: its impact on our health, supply chain, the workforce, and rates of food insecurity across Massachusetts. Still, we have kept our mission and our commitment to partners and end-recipients at the center of everything. We have continued to show up for them and for each other, to be a consistent and reliable resource, to keep food available and improve access to healthy food for people who need it. We held constant, steady, no matter what was going on in the world around us.

This isn't to say that we haven't – like so many – had to be responsive. 2021 was a time of continued growth for Spoonfuls. We added staff in key roles in order to deepen our partnerships, engage new supporters, and reach more of our neighbors with the food we rescue – some 320,000 people last year alone. We committed to expand our services to communities where there is both unmet need and an ability for us to support it. We launched Community Advisory Boards as one intentional, purposeful step toward greater community focus and representation.

But 2021 was also a time of internal reflection, of coming back to basics (our Core Values) and evaluating what our team needs to continue to be present for each other and for the communities we serve. Our Senior Leadership Team evaluated Covid-inspired changes to the way we work – from our pod structure to reduce Food Rescue Coordinators’ risk of exposure to Covid, to our hybrid work model for administrative staff – and we determined they were still working! We also overhauled our hiring practices in order to attract and maintain top talent, people who are both passionate and professional in their approach to food rescue.

So what’s next for us at Lovin’ Spoonfuls? Over the year ahead, with your help, we’ll embark on our first strategic planning process that will help set the course for our food rescue efforts for the years ahead. We’ll expand our services: first into Worcester County and, then, with the addition of a second route in MetroWest. We’ll distribute our 25 millionth lb. of food, and more.

We’ll do these things together with you: our staff, leadership board members, vendor and nonprofit partners, end-recipients, donors, elected officials, and advocates for a fair food system and a healthy planet.

For all the ways you have enabled us to be a resource, and for your ongoing support, we’re “steady on.”

Ashley Stanley  Lisa Fall
Founder &  Chair,
Executive Director  Board of Directors

1
WHY WE RESCUE

Wasted food has an impact on people, the economy, and the planet.

PEOPLE

38 Million Americans are facing food insecurity.*

This while 35% of the food we produce in the United States goes unsold or uneaten.**

Lovin' Spoonfuls has rescued over 23M lbs. of food since our founding in 2010.

In 2021 alone, we rescued 4.15M lbs., averaging 78,000 lbs. per week. 4.15M lbs. is enough food to create roughly 3.3M meals.

Last year, the food we rescued reached over 320,000 people in 50 cities and towns across Massachusetts.

ECONOMY

It is estimated that the food we waste in the U.S. has a dollar value of $285B annually. Wasted food is a waste of money and natural resources, too.**

In 2021, Spoonfuls rescued $7.3M worth of food.

PLANET

Wasted food is the #1 organic material in landfills.****

If food waste were a country, it would be the #3 greenhouse gas emitter behind China and the United States.***

76% of unsold/uneaten food is perishable food.**

By keeping food out of landfills in 2021, we prevented 5,369 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent from being emitted into the atmosphere. That’s like taking 1,226 passenger vehicles off the road for a year.

We helped save 452,210,000 gallons of water which would have been used to dispose of the food we rescued. That’s like 2,261 Giant Ocean Tanks at the heart of the New England Aquarium.

Every $1 Spoonfuls receives enables us to recover roughly 3lbs. of food – enough to feed a neighbor for a day.

90 cents of every $1 we receive is applied to our food rescue operations.

* Feeding America, 2021
** ReFED, 2021
*** United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization, 2013
**** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2021
In 2021, we partnered with the food retailers listed here to pick up fresh (still good!) produce, dairy, lean proteins and more that would otherwise have been discarded from over 70 locations across Massachusetts. We distributed, same day, to nonprofits across Massachusetts serving people facing food insecurity.

**Categories of Foods Distributed in 2021**

- Produce: 41%
- Baked Goods: 15%
- Dairy: 15%
- Meat: 12%
- Prepared Foods: 8%
- Grocery: 7%
- Miscellaneous: 2%

**Why is this food available?**

Very often, the food we rescue is excess or considered otherwise “unsaleable” but still good. Maybe it’s nearing a **best-by or sell-by date.** Maybe it’s a slightly bruised fruit or veggie. Maybe there’s an obvious **factory mistake,** like an upside-down label that makes it less likely to be purchased. We and our vendor partners recognize the opportunity to keep this safe, good-to-eat food from going to waste. Spoonfuls works to ensure it reaches people who can use it!

**2021 Vendor Partners**

- Allandale Farm
- Baldor
- Big Y
- Boston Green Academy
- Brothers Marketplace
- Costco
- Dole and Bailey
- Eataly
- The FruitGuys
- Green City Growers
- Hannaford
- Land's Sake Farm
- Little Leaf Farms
- Price Rite
- Red Fire Farm
- Roche Bros.
- Shaw's
- Star Market
- Stop & Shop
- Sudbury Farms
- Target
- Trader Joe's
- Volante Farms
- Walden Local Meat
- Wegmans
- Whole Foods Market
PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Bernie* is a mom of two who makes just over the income threshold for SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Though her income disqualifies her from receiving SNAP benefits, this doesn't mean she can easily afford to put food on table. To the contrary, she still struggles.

Bernie’s circumstances are not unlike others who’ve turned to food assistance programs – in Bernie’s case, MetroWest YMCA in Framingham, a Lovin’ Spoonfuls nonprofit partner – for support. For some, SNAP benefits alone aren’t enough. For others, like Bernie, they aren’t an option. “She has two teens who are growing and always hungry,” said Maggie Lynch, Director of Nutrition Services at MetroWest YMCA. “The food she receives helps her financially and mentally. She knows she’s bringing home fun and nutritious food options for her kids.”

MetroWest YMCA, which offers afterschool and pantry programs for children and families, is one of over 25 nonprofit beneficiary partners in MetroWest and one of over 160 across Massachusetts to receive regular Spoonfuls’ deliveries.

Learn more about our nonprofit partners here.

* Name changed to protect privacy
2021 Nonprofit Partners

The food we rescued in 2021 reached over 160 nonprofit organizations serving people facing food insecurity: pantries, meal programs, shelters, addiction treatment and recovery programs, veterans-serving programs, afterschool programs, senior centers and more. Food is provided at no cost, which enables our beneficiaries to devote more of their budgets to other program expenses.
A total of 856 individuals and 122 corporate and foundation partners supported our food rescue operations in 2021. 48% of them were returning donors, and 52% were new to Lovin’ Spoonfuls.

**CONTRIBUTORS**

**INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

**$50,000+**
Lisa and Christopher Fall
Catherine and Eric Jonah
Mariani and Andy Youniss

**$25,000 – $49,999**
Cassie Ryan

**$10,000 – $24,999**
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Peter Hosmer
Nic Humphries
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Kathy Twomey

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Colleen and Frank Kettle
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William and Susan Volkman
Susan Warshauer
Lee Webster and David Barone
Laurence and Alexis Wintersteen
Robert and Mae Zagami
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Digital Federal Credit Union
Frieze Family Foundation
Gerstner Philanthropies
John Hancock
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MetroWest Health Foundation
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Myers & Chang, LLC
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Rockland Trust-Blue Hills Charitable Foundation
Stoops Family Foundation
Stop & Shop
The Irene E. and George A. Davis Foundation
Tito’s Handmade Vodka
TXJ Companies
Toast
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Formaggio Kitchen
Highpoint Engineering
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KPMG
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Reed Family Foundation
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Target Corporation
Truesdale Family Fund
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Barr Foundation
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Highpoint Engineering
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Johnson O’Hare Co., Inc.
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Philanthropy Partners of Cape Islands
Reed Family Foundation
Ruberto Israel & Weiner, P.C.
Target Corporation
Truesdale Family Fund
VMware
YSC Consulting

Want to involve your family, school, community group, or workplace in supporting Spoonfuls?
Learn more about crowdfunding!
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Erin Keohane, Senior Director of Development

Administration
Gabriela Ramos, Administrative Officer

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Greg Friedman, Grants & Foundation Specialist
Abbey Nicholson, Development & Marketing Coordinator

Marketing & Communications
Joni Kusminsky, Marketing & Communications Director
Mikayla Lydon, Marketing & Communications Manager

* List current to May 2022
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Chief Financial Officer, Communities for People, Inc.

Adam Kahn, Secretary
Partner, Foley Hoag LLP

Ashley Stanley, Committee Chair
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President, Cafco Construction Management LLC

Armand Adande, At Large
Head of Sales, Americas, Comet X-ray

Nancy Freed, At Large
Partner, Prince Lobel Tye LLP

Andy Youniss, At Large
Executive Chairman, Rocket Software

* List current to May 2022
90 cents of every $1 raised is dedicated to our direct programming.
IN THE NEWS

‘Grateful to be here and do this work’: Boston-based food rescue has delivered 20 million pounds of food

Lovin’ Spoonfuls rescues our 20 millionth pound of food.

Massachusetts nonprofit rescues and donates 20 million pounds of food to pantries

More great coverage of our 20-million-pound milestone!

Ashley Stanley founded Lovin’ Spoonfuls to address hunger and food waste

Spoonfuls’ Founder & Executive Director, Ashley Stanley, speaks to CBSN for their “Women in Service” series.

Grocery stores chains, food pantries, and a food rescue agency all working to lessen food insecurity throughout Massachusetts

Real to Reel follows Lovin’ Spoonfuls on the road and gets to know our work through our Hampden County route.

Supply chain shortages hamper Boston hunger relief organizations

Ripple effects from pandemic supply chain challenges are impacting hunger relief organizations like Lovin’ Spoonfuls.
ON SOCIAL

Check us out on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn – and help introduce more people to our work by sharing these pages with others!
GET IN TOUCH

Speaker Requests

We're eager to share our work with school, community, and corporate groups that share our commitment to reducing wasted food and feeding people! Members of our team are available to connect online or in-person* to talk about Lovin' Spoonfuls, the issue of wasted food, the impact of food rescue, and how you can further support our efforts.

Contact us to learn more about Spoonfuls' speakers.

*Covid restrictions may apply

Contact Us

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Lara Woolfson, Studio Nouveau Photography (pgs. 4, 9, 13)
Edward Boches Photography (pg. 8)
Lovin' Spoonfuls' staff photography (cover, pgs. 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12)
Freepik.com Illustration (pg. 2)