

Serving the  
Brockton area



for 50 years

**The**

# CHARITY GUILD

## ANNUAL REPORT

# 2020

*Our mission is to provide basic and necessary services to those unable to meet their primary needs of food, clothing, and household goods.*

# Our Story

At the turn of the 20th century, Brockton was hailed as the "Shoe City." With a population of 40,000, Brockton was home to one hundred shoe factories, contributing to a thriving community. But by 1964, as industry and technology progressed, only ten factories remained, employing only 2,000 people. Many families were left struggling to meet basic needs. In 1971, Brocktonian Claire Chase knew she could help and, with a group of community-minded women, founded the Charity Guild.

The food pantry provides access to nutritious food to more than 13,000 people annually, including those with special dietary needs. We provide a food delivery service to the homebound which increased significantly during the COVID crisis. Our thrift store generates revenue to support our services and serves to provide clients with clothing and household items. We also enjoy making our clients feel special with holiday gifts like Easter baskets, Mother's and Father's Day gift bags, and little surprises in our homebound deliveries.

The Charity Guild is a story of community and service with good-hearted employees, volunteers, and donors working together to make our community better.

## From the Executive Director

Dear Friends of The Charity Guild,



The year between July 2019 and June 2020 was filled with challenges and successes at TCG. In July, we kicked off our annual summer snack drive for children and thanks to our friends and neighbors, we distributed summer games, craft kits, and backpacks stocked with back-to-school supplies for more than 200 children.

In October, we hosted our most well-attended gala to date, Giving In Style, at Lombardo's in Randolph. The memorable evening generated nearly \$60,000 to support our mission.

The community welcomed the winter months and holidays by hosting numerous food drives that helped us keep our pantry shelves stocked. We count ourselves as fortunate to be remembered by you and are grateful to have so many helping hands and hearts ready to assist us and the Brockton community.

By March of 2020, COVID-19 brought significant changes. Our lovingly loyal 65+ retired volunteers were asked to stay at home to take care of themselves and loved ones and we reduced our team size to just eight members to safely maintain our daily food pantry operations. We experienced an immediate increase in food pantry clients while simultaneously having to close our Thrift Shop, an important fundraising vehicle for us and a valued resource for the community.

As we braced for the months ahead, we knew we would quickly need more cold storage space for refrigerated and frozen food items. We applied for and received a CDBG Block Grant from The Brockton Redevelopment Authority. This funding was allocated to purchase all new commercial cold storage, increasing our food storage by 80%. This support could not have come at a more critical time, enabling us to increase our weekly Food Bank order from 5,000 to 7,000 pounds of food per week to keep up with the dramatic increase in food pantry clients.

Over the last 12 months, we have been reminded again and again by your generous support that you are here for us and want the families of the Brockton to have the nutrition that they need to maintain the health and wellness of their loved ones. YOU know, as a community, how truly important it is that we take care of one another and for that, we are immensely grateful. We wish you and your loved ones many blessings for a bright and healthy new year.

Sincerely,  
Laura Striese

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### Mailing Address

The Charity Guild, Inc.  
PO Box 4856  
Brockton, Mass. 02303-4856

### Physical Address

501 Main Street  
Brockton, Mass. 02301

# Food Pantry Report



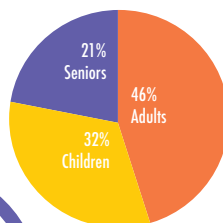
5,422 Households  
(619 new)



331,073 Pounds  
275,894 Meals\*



12,548 Individuals



66,192 pounds



17,676 pounds



55,345 pounds

Fiscal year 2020  
(7/1/2019-6/30/2020)

Total support and revenue:  
\$479,970

Total expenditures:  
\$274,884

Net assets:  
\$205,086

6% of our food comes from individual donations and company food drives, and from the following grocery store partners:



We are a partner agency of The Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB) which gives us access to a network of 600 food distribution partners across Eastern Massachusetts and hundreds of thousands of pounds of healthy food every year at a reduced and sometimes at no cost. Nutritious options include fresh produce, proteins, and dairy. GBFB also ensures that we meet all state and local health department requirements, we hold the necessary licenses and permits to operate a Food Pantry, and offers us trainings, best practices, and timely updates on activities impacting our hunger-relief work.

## Our Thrift Shop



Our Thrift Shop has always been a crucial fundraising vehicle to support our mission. For many years, thrift shop sales supported nearly one third of our annual operations budget. In March of 2020, we followed CDC and Commonwealth of Massachusetts COVID-19 guidelines and temporarily closed our shop doors. This resulted in a loss of more than \$30,000 in

crucial projected funding for our Food Pantry operations (March 2020 - June 2020).

The thrift store has an eBay store which can be found at: [charity.ebay.com](https://charity.ebay.com), search for The Charity Guild.

**Value In-Kind Donations: \$55,275.00**

**Individuals Served by Referral: 205**

\*The USDA classifies a meal as about 1.2 pounds of food

# The People Making It All Work

Our volunteer hours for 2019/2020 were significantly impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic. In March of 2020, we reduced our team size to seven to maintain social distancing and minimize exposure. To operate our food pantry on a daily basis, we relied solely on four dedicated employees and two volunteers.

## Our Valiant Volunteers

**Total Volunteer Hours (July 1 2019 – June 30, 2020): 2407**

Lisa Brolin	Libby Ellin	Andria Neelo
Amanda Chastain	Paul Derogatis	Abigail Smith
Edmonde Dalton	Sabrina Shaw	Tyson Dickinson
Ieda DosSantos	Christine Tennihan	Tess Petit-Frere
ZacharyLacasser	Mary Ann Dorgan	Michael Molyneux
Pegge Lang	Bobbi Elman	Isabel Staco
Taylor Master	Elaine Gardner	McNally Clermont
Kelly Mitchell	Catarina Barros	Ruby Politano
Mitchel Mitchell	Mana Barros	Vanessa Rodney
Florence McNamara	Sylvia Costello	Joceline Fonseca
Mary Jane Cotter	Anna Dias	Di'Andra Butner
Gabriel Perez	Dennis Gorin	Gianna Nicoli
Sandra Recine	Roy Leblank	Matteo Niccoli
Jordan Miranda	Daniel MacKinnon	Olivia Rateau
Asya Williams	Susan Trent	Denilda Varela
Tanya Miranda	Raynol Rodrigue	Edgardo Acosta
Thuy Do-Nguyen	Olivia Vega	Lisandro Velesquez
Tara Anderson	Madison Siva	Mike Kelly
Suzanne McCormack	Johana Fratus	Harry Cohen
Amber Young	Hughes Mentor	
Kelly Young	Juvinal Medina	
Joe Ritucci	Kate Langford	



## Our Terrific Team: The Charity Guild Employees

Eileen Bailey	Douglas Meadows
Asley Aka	Maria Miranda
Chonte Dominique	Karen Sovine
Karla Semeter	David Barton
Nancy Roberts	Daryl Smith

## Our Community Programs

Along with our food pantry, The Charity Guild sustains the following community programs:

- Food vouchers for students experiencing homelessness
- Mother's Day gift give-away
- Easter Baskets for children
- Easton Children's Museum visits
- Thrift Shop Referral Program

Our **Thrift Shop Referral Program** serves clients referred to us by local human services agencies, city programs, and local churches and service-focused clubs. We provide clothing and crucial household items through this program throughout the year. Referring agencies include: Brockton Public Schools, BAMSI, Early Headstart, YMCA, WIC, Signature Healthcare, Father Bill's Mainspring House, Brockton Neighborhood Health, Teen Challenge, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Multi Service, Stairway To Recovery

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# Thank you

Without the financial support of the following businesses, organizations, grantors, foundations, and individuals, we could not achieve our mission.

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Albertsons/Shaws  
Bearingstar Charitable Foundation  
Blum Shapiro Foundation  
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