



Dear Jeffrey and John,

Angie, a Community Servings client who receives a vegetarian diet, lives in Cambridge with her 9-year-old son, Matthew, who is autistic. In addition to being a single parent and sole provider, she also copes with a dual diagnosis of autoimmune hepatitis, a disease in which the body's immune system attacks liver cells, causing severe inflammation of her liver and leading to Stage 4 cirrhosis, as well as diabetes.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Angie's care provider told her that her job as a visiting R.N. was too risky to continue because of her illness. As a mom, she couldn't risk her health for income and made the hard decision to step away from work. Sadly, her initial unemployment application was denied, and Angie has been living off savings and borrowing from friends and family to make ends meet, all while homeschooling Matthew and working hard to get him the best care possible.



Community Servings Clients
Angie and Matthew

The financial and emotional stress of the last 13 months has understandably caused her to become depressed at times, but she hasn't lost hope.

(Over, please)

Recently, a social worker helping to connect Angie to additional supports told her about Community Servings' medically tailored meals program and referred her to our Client Services department. A few weeks ago, she and Matthew both began receiving meals through our targeted COVID-19 program that supports high-risk individuals and their families dealing with food insecurity during the pandemic.

"I eat a vegetarian diet because it helps me manage the inflammation caused by my condition, but it can be expensive to purchase the right foods I need to stay healthy. Money is extremely tight right now because it's too risky for me to work during the pandemic. Every week, I look forward to the meals I receive from Community Servings because they are delicious and give me the right nutrients. I especially love the Falafel and Hummus. It makes me feel like I'm dining at a restaurant!" said Angie.

Right now, thanks to the unwavering generosity of our community, we're delivering meals to 65% more clients, like Angie, experiencing critical and chronic illnesses than we were at this time last year. I've never seen demand like this in the 25 years that I've been with Community Servings. We're currently on track to deliver over 800,000 meals in 2021, but we need your help to do it. **We know this is our new normal.**

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to actively engage the community to provide medically tailored, nutritious, scratch-made meals to chronically and critically ill individuals and their families.

OUR VISION

We envision a world in which everyone has access to the nutritious food they need for health and wellbeing as a fundamental right.

In the last year, individuals and families across the Commonwealth have dealt with record unemployment and lost wages, all with little-to-no savings that could shield them from the economic impact of the pandemic. A recent report stated that food insecurity in Massachusetts more than doubled from 8.4% of households pre-pandemic to 17.5 % at the end of 2020. That means one in six families across the state is currently dealing with food insecurity.

We've come so far thanks to the generosity of people like you, but it will be difficult to sustain this level of growth in the months ahead. Will you renew your commitment with a gift of \$750 to help us reach even more neighbors in need?

With warm regards,



David B. Waters, CEO

P.S. Can we count on your support to help us keep up with record demand for our scratch-made, medically tailored meals?