A Message From Karen Pearl

The summer flew by, marked by a triumphant end to our fiscal year where we celebrated cooking and home-delivering more than 2.8 million medically tailored meals – an agency record. Thanks to the great support and loving care of our staff, volunteers, and community, we did so much more. We served more than 9,000 individuals, launched two new programs, grew sustainability efforts by sourcing antibiotic-free chicken, grass-fed beef, and wild-caught fish, and advanced our health equity efforts by targeting our outreach in historically under-resourced areas.

In April we reached a new milestone, delivering our 30 millionth meal! Not only were we honored to be joined by actors Hugh Jackman and Sutton Foster for this historic occasion, we were thrilled to do so during National Volunteer Week, a dedicated time for us to thank our thousands of volunteers for their many gifts of time, talent, and heart. During this week we officially launched our “Year of Gratitude” – a celebratory and big-hearted thank you from God’s Love to every person who has helped us expand, year after year since our founding in 1985, to serve more clients and deliver more meals.

Festivities continued in June as we celebrated Pride all month long, culminating in our participation in the NYC Pride March. We thank our sponsors L’Oréal for their partnership as well as actor and comedian Michelle Buteau, Culinary Council member Chef Amanda Freitag, Board member Melba Wilson, and the hundreds of volunteers and supporters who came out to cheer us on.

At the policy level, God’s Love will participate in the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health in September, as well as our annual Food is Medicine Coalition Symposium. For years, we have been working hard to ensure that our elected officials and other policy stakeholders at the local, state, and national levels understand how critical good nutrition is to the health and well-being of those living with severe and chronic illness. The Conference and Symposium are wonderful opportunities to highlight our Food is Medicine platform and center the importance of our low-cost, high-impact, lifesaving medically tailored meal program.

As I convey all this great news, I write with mixed emotions to share that I have made the difficult decision to step down from my position as President & CEO at God’s Love at the end of 2022. Being President & CEO of God’s Love has been the honor of a lifetime. Over the past 16 years, we have grown in every way possible and, no matter how you have supported us, you have been a critical part of our success. I will continue working at God’s Love on a part-time basis, as Advisor on Key Projects.

I am delighted to announce that our Board of Directors, after careful deliberations, have chosen David Ludwigson, Vice President and Chief Development Officer, as the next President & CEO of God’s Love We Deliver. David brings more than 25 years of experience to this role. Before joining the staff in April 2007 as Chief Development Officer, David was a volunteer in our kitchen for many years and then a funder of our services through his work at the Ford Motor Company. He has played many key roles in the growth of God’s Love and is deeply committed to our mission, program, clients and staff.

If you have been reading my messages in our newsletters for any amount of time now, you know just how much we have accomplished together. From building and moving into our Michael Kors Building headquarters, weathering all the challenges of COVID-19, to increasing the visibility of our organization so that more people who need us know about us, and quadrupling the number of meals we cook, package, and deliver – and so much more. We have improved the health outcomes of many thousands of people, lowered the cost of their health care, and significantly improved their quality of life.

In this next quarter, I know we will continue to accomplish great things together. I remain excited about our goals and vision, and know that forward progress will continue at God’s Love with David at the helm. Personally, I thank each of you for enriching my experience every day and allowing me to lead this extraordinary community of staff, volunteers and supporters. It has truly been my honor to do so.

Now, we look to our busiest time of the year – the holidays! This year we are introducing a brand-new holiday catalog. And please mark your calendars and purchase your tickets for The New York City Wine & Food Festival (October 13-16) and our Golden Heart Awards Gala (October 17). Start training for the Race to Deliver, our annual 4-mile run/walk in Central Park on November 20. Finally, be on the lookout to sign up to volunteer with us on Thanksgiving Day.

No matter how you get involved this year, I extend my gratitude for your support.

Karen
On Saturday, July 9th more than three hundred guests attended Midsummer Night at the Hamptons home of designer, philanthropist, and God’s Love Board member, Aerin Lauder. During the live auction, guests bid to fund meals for a client living with illness for one year, to purchase a delivery van for God’s Love, and to sponsor other program items.

“I am thrilled to welcome the God’s Love We Deliver community to my home for Midsummer Night Drinks,” said Aerin Lauder. “The incredible work they do for New Yorkers who are too sick to shop or cook for themselves is life-saving. I am honored to host this event that supports the organization’s mission and makes a direct impact in the lives of their clients.”

Guests celebrated the many achievements of our recent fiscal year over delicious bites and drinks from local partners. Chef Michael Anthony of Gramercy Tavern served creative hors d’oeuvres including seafood staples from Long Island Clams and Peeko Oysters. Menu items were paired with celebratory cocktails from local wine and spirit purveyors Channing Daughters Winery, Cosmic Soul Gin, Grand Optimist Rye Whiskey, Montauk Brewery, and Starling Vodka.

God’s Love would like to extend our deepest gratitude to this year’s hosts, Aerin Lauder and Eric Zinterhofer. Special thanks to Michael Anthony of Gramercy Tavern for creating a gorgeous menu, Bridgehampton Florist for the festive flower arrangements, and Marra Forni for transporting pizza ovens to the location. The evening would not have been possible without Canard, Inc., Blue Lion Events, Dan Klores Communications, and Paul Wilmot Communications.

After several hours of music and mingling, guests left with Chuck’s Famous Brownies, baked with love by Chef Dorothy Auer and God’s Love We Deliver volunteers.
At God’s Love We Deliver, we are grateful to hear from our clients and their families how our medically tailored meals, nutrition counseling, and caring services have supported them. Recently, Tyira volunteered with us and then shared her story — how more than 20 years ago, we delivered meals to her mother and family, and how she has never forgotten the care she received and the delicious meals they enjoyed.

“God’s Love We Deliver has been in my life since I was a child. I encountered God’s Love when they only served people living with HIV/AIDS. My birth mother fit this description. She needed you; even more, we needed you. Your services are how we ate and how I received quality, balanced nutrition.

I can tell you that now, at 33 years old, I still remember the food! The food was delicious. When so much of life felt scarce, God’s Love truly delivered!

God’s Love felt like a bounty coming to our home multiple times a week. My mother and I knew that we could count on you. Furthermore, we knew the food we would receive would be delicious and healthy. We felt so cared for.

Thank you for the care you gave my mother and me all those years ago. When life was so hard, you helped make life a little easier. I’m thrilled you’re still here to help people who are affected by illness and in need of nutritious food. It is lifesaving and life-affirming work. I am proud to have been a part of the God’s Love community then and am proud to be part of the God’s Love community today.”

~ Little Tyira (inside of me) and Grown Tyira appreciate you.

To make a gift in honor of a mother or special caregiver in your life, please donate at glwd.org/mealsformoms.

God’s Love has proudly served people in the New York City metro area living with severe illness for nearly 40 years. When COVID-19 hit, God’s Love was flooded with thousands of phone calls from individuals and agencies asking for help. While we have always known there are others who would benefit from our meals, this outpouring of need made us acutely aware that we must proactively reach out to potential clients. As a first step, we launched a client acquisition campaign to spread the word about God’s Love in neighborhoods with high disease rates. As we continue to grow, we plan to reach more clients and help reduce disparities in health status caused by inequities in the healthcare system.

If you or someone you know would benefit from delicious, nutritious, home-delivered meals, please learn more at glwd.org/getmeals, or reach out to our team at clientservices@glwd.org or 212.294.8102.
Just like people, the foundations and corporations whose donations support God’s Love We Deliver have varied interests. Many choose to contribute to general operations, while others prefer to help in a more focused way, such as supporting clients with a specific diagnosis. Both methods allow God’s Love to expand and move forward with innovative projects to reach as many of our vulnerable neighbors as possible.

The New York Community Trust supports our clients living with cancer, including their senior caregivers and dependent children. Through a five-year grant, The Anne Levy Charitable Trust helps us provide medically tailored meals to our clients affected by breast cancer.

In the early days of God’s Love, the HIV/AIDS community was our sole focus. These clients’ need for home-delivered nutrition brought God’s Love into existence. Today, many foundations continue to honor this historic need, including the Keith Haring Foundation, The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the Empire BlueCross BlueShield Foundation, and Gilead Sciences to connect with these communities.

We know that New York City has more people who need our meals than we currently serve, a fact made very clear by the pandemic. Through a new targeted outreach campaign, we are taking steps to reach diverse communities with meals and enrollment information. We are grateful to receive support from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation, The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the Empire BlueCross BlueShield Foundation, and Gilead Sciences to connect with these communities.

The Krumholz Foundation and the Binn Family Foundation support our annual Thanksgiving tradition of bringing a holiday feast for each client and a guest, together with a reusable tote containing healthy snacks and hygiene items.

Craig Newmark Philanthropies has made substantial gifts to God’s Love to target hunger relief. Coupled with Craig’s interest in helping veterans, he connected us to the Bob Woodruff Foundation, which led to our launch of a new program bringing medically tailored meals to veterans living with PTSD and other mental health issues.

If you are connected to a foundation or corporation, we would be grateful for an introduction to help God’s Love reach as many people as possible by providing our medically tailored meals and nutrition education and counseling, all delivered with dignity, hope and love. Please contact Laura Bauer, Director of Institutional Giving at lbauer@glwd.org.

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**CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS:**

**Giving Goes Big, Thanks to Corporate and Foundation Friends**

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Not only do we bring medically tailored meals to those facing serious illness, we also make sure the children of our clients have nutritious breakfasts, dinners and snacks to help them grow and thrive. For our clients, this can alleviate the stress connected to being ill and feeding a family. Ameriprise Financial, Inc. and Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation support our children’s meals.

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**YOUNG HEARTS:**

**Engaging the Next Generation at God’s Love We Deliver**

We understand the importance of getting kids involved with philanthropy at a young age. That’s why we’ve created a group for our youngest supporters, volunteers, and community members – our Young Hearts.

**Who are Young Hearts?**

Young Hearts are young people (high school and under) who, along with their schools, peer groups, and/or families, engage in God’s Love volunteerism, philanthropy, events and education. Read more about our Young Hearts opportunities and the individuals themselves below! To get involved with the program, visit glwd.org/younghearts.

**Crafting Love Sunday**

Crafting Love Sunday is held the first Sunday of the month and is open to people of all ages. Volunteers create birthday cards, seasonal cards and cards of care for our clients, who really look forward to the handmade card.

*If you’re interested in scheduling a Crafting Love Sunday for a group of family, friends, or colleagues, please visit glwd.org/craftinglove.*
On Wednesday, April 20, God’s Love We Deliver celebrated an extraordinary milestone as we delivered our 30 millionth meal! It was extra special to cook, package, and deliver this meal during National Volunteer Week, when we take extra time and space to celebrate the dedication of our committed and compassionate volunteers. Special guests, Hugh Jackman and Sutton Foster, traded their Broadway best for hairnets and aprons to help us kick off the momentous occasion—before heading off to two performances in *The Music Man!*

We are so proud of this accomplishment and are humbled by our staff, volunteers, and supporters who have allowed us to serve people living with severe illness for nearly 40 years. What began with one volunteer, our founder Ganga Stone, delivering one meal to a man dying of AIDS, has grown into a rapidly expanding movement grounded in our belief that Food is Medicine.

30 million is an astonishing number. But what makes it so remarkable is that this moment represents 30 million acts of kindness. That is, 30 million delicious, nutritious, and individually tailored meals. 30 million moments of comfort and care—and 30 million smiles—delivered to our neighbors who need us.

We thank every single person who has helped us reach this historic moment, and we are filled with tremendous appreciation for our volunteers that keep our organization running. No matter the weather or circumstance, our volunteers always show up for our clients who are living with illness and for their families. We are grateful to them today, and always.

Our gratitude and deepest thanks go to our phenomenal staff, volunteers, donors, and to Hugh and Sutton. With God’s Love, our clients know they are not alone. They have all of us. Together, we are saving lives and bringing dignity, hope, and love to thousands of people during difficult times. Here’s to 30 million more!
What began as a friendship sparked by a mutual love for football has blossomed into a treasured partnership grounded in philanthropy. When husband and wife Shari and Ryan Rueckl moved to New York City, they frequented the Kettle of Fish, a local bar where they could cheer on their hometown team. At this watering hole, they met fellow Midwestern native and cheesehead, God’s Love Vice President & Chief Development Officer, David Ludwigson! In between cheering for the Green Bay Packers (leading them to win the Super Bowl that year!), they learned about the work God’s Love does to serve those living with illness and knew they wanted to get involved. They’ve done this by joining our Legacy Society, raising over $3,000 for the Race to Deliver last year, and volunteering.

Soon after meeting David, Shari and Ryan began volunteering at God’s Love. As a food justice advocate and Project Coordinator at the Lower East Side Ecology Center, Shari appreciates how organized the volunteer and delivery system is. Ryan, Director of Development in IT, was especially impressed with the sheer number of meals God’s Love delivers every single day. He also enjoys connecting with his fellow volunteers and staff who pack every meal with a sense of joy and love. In his own words, “Karen Pearl is an amazing CEO, so friendly, always stops to say hi, and clearly leads by example because that warmth is felt from everyone in the building.”

Inspired by a hope that people who need our services will have access to meals for years to come, Ryan and Shari joined the God’s Love Legacy Society.

When asked why being a part of the Legacy Society is significant to them, Shari tells us, “If you support God’s Love while you are here, it only makes sense to support them with a last legacy gift. We should strive to leave the world a better place than when we arrived and God’s Love is doing just that. We are so honored to be a part of their life-saving work.”

To learn more about the Legacy Society and how you can get involved, please visit glwd.org/legacysociety or contact Brandon Bryant at bbryant@glwd.org or 212.294.8134.

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**genLOVE:**

**Summer & 6th: a genLOVE Celebration**

On June 7th, we celebrated our genLOVE community with our first-ever Summer & 6th event.

genLOVE is our young professionals group dedicated to raising awareness and funds for God’s Love. We Deliver. Our Executive Committee helps lead the genLOVE group, focusing on fundraising awareness, and volunteering. We are thrilled to announce the newest members of our committee: Kevin Bentley, Liliana Brown, Ryan Dell, Sara Greaves, Linda Greenberg, Emily Matthews, Manus McGuire, Sophie de Menil, Dimitri Moise, and Maura O’Neill. We are so excited to have them on board to help steer the direction of genLOVE and use their wide range of skills to help grow support for God’s Love!

We also give a HUGE heartfelt thank you and goodbye to those who have finished their term as Executive Committee members. Trent Huffman, Lindsay Feinberg, Chloe Kelley, and Anjuli Nanda Diamond have been extraordinary leaders and supporters, helping create and shape the Committee. We are so grateful.

Thank you to Delta Air Lines for sponsoring genLOVE. If you have any inquiries about genLOVE, please reach out to Julia Cordry at jcordry@glwd.org.
Springing with Zesty Sumac and our New Sumac and Mint Meatballs
BY CHEF ANDRE DAQUIGAN

Sumac is an ingredient that, once used, becomes a must-have in a home cook’s kitchen. With an acidic flavor profile reminiscent of fresh lemon zest, its tart, citric nature also has notes of sour cherry and sea salt. Dark red in color with the texture of ground nuts, this staple of Middle Eastern cooking brings an invigorating brightness to dishes. Sumac can be used both as a finishing spice similar to a fresh squeeze of lemon, or as a cooking spice added to marinades, spice rubs, and sautés.

In this recipe for Sumac and Mint Meatballs, the versatile spice serves double duty. Blended into the meatball mixture, it cuts through the richness of the ground beef. As a garnish, it tops the finished dish with a Burgundy-colored sprinkle of acidity. As a side note, for those cooks who enjoy lamb as much as I do, feel free to blend in or substitute the beef altogether with ground lamb. The combination of mint, sumac and lamb will transport you to the culinary traditions of the Mediterranean and Middle East. Yum!

For our clients, we serve these Sumac and Mint Meatballs on a bed of whole grain couscous and brushed with a Mint Pea Pesto. At home, my family loves them with a simple cucumber salad and toasted pita. And, between you and me, they’re also excellent dipped in thick Greek yogurt or spicy hummus straight out of the fridge!

Whichever way you choose to serve them, enjoy!

Serves 6-8

- 2 lbs. ground beef
- 1 egg
- 1 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 3 cloves garlic, finely minced
- ½ cup onions, small dice
- 6-8 large mint leaves, finely chopped
- ¼ cup fresh parsley, finely chopped
- 2 teaspoons sumac
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 2 Tablespoons honey
- 2 Tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 Tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 3-6 Tablespoons olive oil, as needed to pan fry

Sumac and finely chopped mint and parsley, for garnish

Method

1. In a large bowl, add all the meatball ingredients. Using your hands, mix ingredients well until thoroughly combined. Refrigerate the meatball mixture for around an hour to ease shaping.

2. Using a medium ice cream scoop or a heaping tablespoon, measure out and shape consistently sized meatballs. Repeat until all the mixture has been used.

3. Preheat a large skillet on a stovetop over medium-high heat. Add enough olive oil to the bottom of the pan to cover its surface.

4. In 3-4 batches, pan fry the meatballs until well browned and cooked through. As each batch finishes cooking, remove the meatballs, keeping them warm and covered.

Alternatively, the meatballs can be baked in a 350-degree oven for approximately 20 minutes, or until nicely browned and cooked through.

5. Before serving, garnish the meatballs with a sprinkle of sumac, chopped parsley and mint.
Celebrating Love, Giving Back and Rock ‘n Roll at the Sixth Annual Love Rocks NYC!

On March 10, the sold-out sixth annual Love Rocks NYC benefit concert for God’s Love brought the house down with another extraordinary night of live music. Presented by the Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation and held at the historic Beacon Theatre, the star-studded evening was executive produced by iconic international fashion designer John Varvatos, NYC real estate broker, prominent concert producer, and God’s Love Board of Trustees member Greg Williamson, and esteemed concert/events producer Nicole Rechter. Thousands of fans from around the world also enjoyed the entertainment from their own homes, via livestream.

Hosted by Mario Cantone, Steve Schirripa and Michelle Buteau, with surprise host Bill Murray and a special guest appearance by Laurence Fishburne, the concert raised more than $3 million dollars for God’s Love and also celebrated the extraordinary milestone of our 30 millionth meal this past spring.

Keith Richards & The X-Pensive Winos’ monumental performance, their first together in thirty years, was one of the many highlights of the night. Also featured were rock and soul music legends sharing the stage with some of the brightest young soul, rock, and blues stars: Mavis Staples, Hozier, Warren Haynes, Ben Harper, Melissa Etheridge, Allison Russell, Larkin Poe, Tyler Bryant, David Shaw (of The Revivalists), Anders Osborne, Celisse, Jimmy Vivino, Maggie Rose and Connor Kennedy—and Music Director and Bandleader Will Lee, who was at the helm all night. Love Rocks NYC alum Bernie Williams made a surprise appearance, too. We thank all of our tremendous artists for pulling out all the stops for a fabulous event.

One of the most inspiring moments of the evening came when our President & CEO Karen Pearl announced from the stage that the Board and staff were giving half of all donations raised via text-to-give during the concert to support food and hunger relief for the Ukrainian people.

Rounding out the night of music was the stellar house band featuring Shawn Pelton (Saturday Night Live), Eric Krasno (Soulive, Phil Lesh & Friends), Larry Campbell (Levon Helm, Bob Dylan), Jeff Young (Jackson Browne, Sting, Donald Fagen), Pedrito Martinez (Bruce Springsteen, Sting, Camila Cabello) and Ricky Peterson (Fleetwood Mac, David Sanborn, Prince, George Benson). Ken Dashow of Q104.3 served as the evening’s “voice of god.”

Thank you to our presenting sponsor, The Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation; to our title sponsors Bloomberg Philanthropies, the RJKB Foundation and The Secunda Family Foundation; and to The Campbell/Ribbecke Family, Conde Nast, Daily Provisions, DK Corp. Display, Gramercy Tavern, On This Day, Shake Shack, RWE, Villa One Tequila, iHeart Media, The Wall Street Journal and Q104.3!
ROBERT ‘WADDY’ WACHTEL, KEITH RICHARDS, LAURENCE FISHBURNE, AND STEVE JORDAN

BERNIE WILLIAMS AND JIMMY VIVINO

ELLIE FREEDMAN, RICHARD VULMAN, KATY WILLIAMSON & ZACH NASH

MARIO CANTONE

REBECCA LOVELL AND MEGAN LOVELL OF LARKIN POE

STEVE JORDAN AND CONNOR KENNEDY

STEPHEN COVELLO, SETH FRANK, BILL RIBBECKE, STACY AND SETH WEISSER

KAREN PEARL, MELBA WILSON & TERRENCE MECK

IVAN NEVILLE WITH HOUSE BAND

ERIKA KRASNO, JOHN VARVATOS, DANNY CLINCH, WILL LEE, BEN HARPER, JACKSON BROWNE, AND LARRY CAMPBELL

SAM AND DENA LOMBARDO WITH JAMES PALAZZA AND MARTIN DEANE

ROSS LORBERFELD, SAMOYA NICOLAS, JULIE VAN DORE & ILEANA CERPA

MONIQUE ROSS, ALLISON RUSSELL, AND CHAUNTEE ROSS

RICK ALDEN, JOYCE VARVATOS AND ROSS MAURI

KATY WILLIAMSON AND FRIENDS

HOZIER

LINDA GOODE BRYANT AND JON GILMAN

MICHELLE BUTEAU

KATY WILLIAMSON AND FRIENDS

MONIQUE ROSS, ALLISON RUSSELL, AND CHAUNTEE ROSS

RICK ALDEN, JOYCE VARVATOS AND ROSS MAURI

KATY WILLIAMSON AND FRIENDS

HOZIER
HEALTHCARE NEWS:

Piloting Medically Tailored Meals Statewide with the NYS Department of Health

With our years of expertise in providing nutritious, medically tailored home-delivered meals and our long-time advocacy efforts, God’s Love is thrilled to be selected as one of the New York State Department of Health’s (the State) medically tailored meal providers. As the State looks for cost-effective services known as “in lieu of services” (ILS), it has identified medically tailored meals as a service with tremendous potential. The State has created a pilot to evaluate the impact that medically tailored meals have on health outcomes and on the overall medical costs incurred for those with serious illnesses.

The pilot will serve individuals diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, cancer, heart disease, and diabetes who are physically challenged in their activities of daily living. These individuals will receive breakfast, lunch, and dinner for a 6-month period in order to evaluate improvement in the number of times they access an emergency room or are admitted to the hospital.

Given our long partnerships with managed care providers, we have been approached to work with organizations like Amida Care, Empire BlueCross BlueShield (an Anthem company) and MetroPlus Health, and we continue to seek new partners.

We look forward to providing our meal and nutrition counseling services to Medicaid-eligible members in the State and continuing our efforts in being the leading provider of medically tailored home-delivered meals for people living with serious illnesses.

If you work in healthcare and are interested in partnering with God’s Love We Deliver, please reach out to Dorella Walters at dwalters@glwd.org.

PROGRAM:

Introducing Connected: The Food and Nutrition Service for Individuals with a Mental Health and/or Substance Use Challenge

Last fall, God’s Love launched a new program to serve US Military Veterans diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). While God’s Love has long served individuals with a mental health condition as a co-morbidity, in addition to a diagnosis like HIV or cardiovascular disease, this marks the first time a mental health condition is the primary diagnostic focus. Mental health conditions can impact a person’s nourishment as well as food security. Working with US Military Veterans or anyone who has served in the military is especially important as we know this group is particularly challenged by PTSD. It is estimated that 30% of veterans living in NYC are food insecure.

To further serve the US Military Veteran community, our program expanded this spring to include additional mental health diagnoses such as anxiety, major depression, bi-polar disorder, schizoaffective disorder, schizophrenia and/or substance use conditions. This program is called Connected: The Food and Nutrition Service for Individuals with a Mental Health and/or Substance Use Challenge. We hope that clients and the professionals who refer them will be inspired by the term “Connected” which refers to the both the mind-body connection that an individual experiences when supporting their mental health with nutrition, as well as the individual’s connection to God’s Love as a resource in their healthcare.

This service expansion led the Nutrition Services Department to review and enhance our nutrition program to best meet the needs of these new clients.

To ensure our menu options are supportive for our clients with these diagnoses, our team completed a menu review for the inclusion of nutrients that are linked to brain health and made suggestions for menu development. The team also prepared a full assessment of commonly prescribed medications to catalog any food and drug interactions, contraindications, or food requirements.

Building upon these activities, our Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) are creating new nutrition education materials specifically for our clients with mental health diagnoses. Reinforcing the telephone counseling provided by our RDNs, these materials include written documents, group education opportunities, and recorded web-based education modules in multiple languages. Future group sessions will include topics like food and mood, nutrition and recovery, and plant-based nutrition. We aim to have our materials available in varying formats to accommodate multiple learning styles.

The Program Services Department, which includes the Client Services, Healthcare Partners, and Nutrition groups, engaged in training throughout the year to prepare our staff to best support individuals with mental health conditions and substance-use challenges.

We offer special thanks to Craig Newmark and the Bob Woodruff Foundation for their partnership launching our initiative for veterans and for their continued support.

To refer or become a client on our veteran mental health program, please visit glwd.org/connected.
Have you noticed the word GRATITUDE popping up a lot lately? Good! Because whether you see it around the building, on our social feed or at an event, it’s a message that’s meant for you — our dedicated staff, volunteers, and donors. Our mission is human-powered, and it wouldn’t be possible without you.

This year, we are celebrating a “Year of Gratitude” at God’s Love. With this campaign, we thank YOU for giving us your time, your helping hands, your whole hearts – during COVID-19 and beyond. Your support helps us grow our program, and nourish New York.

Ours is a human-powered mission, and your dedication is the fuel that moves it forward.

Attitude of Gratitude during National Volunteer Week

During National Volunteer Week, God’s Love was honored to recognize and celebrate the tremendous time, love, and care our volunteers put in to all they do at God’s Love We Deliver all year long. Whether our volunteers are in the kitchen, on the roads delivering, packing bags in meal kit assembly, answering phones in the office, or assisting with special events or more, every individual makes a difference in the lives of our neighbors living with illness.

We shared our “attitude of gratitude” by decking out our headquarters everywhere, with a special sign in the Volunteer Lounge, “gratitude” stretched along the Sixth Avenue side of our building, and other decorations placed throughout the building.

Our friends at Nightingale Ice Cream Sandwiches generously donated “Nicky’s Blondie,” in partnership with our Board member, Nicky Hilton. Our volunteers couldn’t get enough of that honeycomb ice cream and graham cracker cookie!

On social media, our staff across departments expressed messages of gratitude for our volunteers. Be sure to visit our Instagram (@godslovenyc) to see these messages.

And of course, we were thrilled to deliver our 30 millionth meal in the middle of National Volunteer Week, with our great friends Hugh Jackman and Sutton Foster. From all of us at God’s Love We Deliver, thank you to our extraordinary volunteers – you truly are the heart of God’s Love!

Proudly Marching with Gratitude

We felt an extraordinary energy and sense of community at this year’s Pride March in June. From honoring those lost to the HIV/AIDS crisis, to creating a safe space for everyone to exist, there were countless reasons to march.

We were joined by actor and comedian Michelle Buteau, Board member Melba Wilson, Culinary Council member Amanda Freitag, Development Committee member James Palazza, dozens of volunteers and staff members, and our friends from Out@L’Oreal.

Thank you to everyone who participated, everyone who cheered us on from the sidelines and at home. Special thanks to L’Oreal for sponsoring this year’s event and for their support of our clients, mission, and the March.

We can’t wait for next year… #FeedYourPride!

Learn more about our Year of Gratitude at glwd.org/yearofgratitude
GREETINGS FROM SUNNY FLORIDA!

While God’s Love has deep roots in New York City, our community extends far beyond the five boroughs. In March, God’s Love staff visited our devoted supporters in Florida to provide an update on our programming. God’s Love Board Member and CEO of Douglas Elliman, Scott Durkin, hosted a lunch at Le Biboquet for friends and colleagues to bring awareness to the growing demand for medically tailored, nutritious meals. The God’s Love team also visited Saks Fifth Avenue, with James Palazza, Development Committee Member, to meet shoppers participating in a three day sales event where a percentage of proceeds were donated to the agency. We closed out the week with a housewarming party at the beautiful home of Sam and Dena Lombardo in Vero Beach. During the event, Sam and Dena announced a generous donation to God’s Love. While we enjoyed the sunny Florida weather, having the opportunity to connect with our supporters was undoubtedly the highlight!

FEEDING NEW YORKERS IN STYLE

In April, God’s Love teamed up with Lola Taverna and Lingua Franca for a night of food, fashion and philanthropy! Our neighbor Lola Taverna worked with designer Lingua Franca to create a cashmere “Lola” sweater to benefit God’s Love. Lola Taverna graciously hosted an intimate kick-off diner with longtime supporters and new friends to celebrate the launch of the limited-run sweaters. During the feast, Individual Gifts Officer, Brandon Bryant, highlighted the importance of the services God’s Love provides. Remarks concluded with supporter and “Real Housewives of New York” star, Dorinda Medley, encouraging guests to donate using our QR code before dinner. Dancing ensued! A special thank you to the team at Act 2 Hospitality and KMJR World for your hard work in planning this event and bringing awareness of our mission to your community.

VINTAGE STYLING FOR GOD’S LOVE

As an organization that was founded in the ‘80s, we know vintage fashion! What Goes Around Comes Around (WGACA) is the premier purveyor of luxury vintage accessories and apparel from around the world. For this reason and more, when WGACA reached out to collaborate with God’s Love for their grand reopening, it was a natural fit.

On the night of the May event, guests braved the rain for cocktails and shopping at the West Broadway flagship location before heading to the Wooster Street store for dancing, photos, and pizza! The event brought much needed awareness and funds to our life-saving meal program. The WGACA team also committed to donating a portion of sales to further our mission of nourishing New Yorkers. Thank you to Seth and Stacy Weisser for your dedication to God’s Love!

FLOWER FLASH

On May 25, the quiet streets of SoHo brightened extra early, as the team at Lewis Miller Design began to set up their Flower Flash at the corner of Spring Street and Sixth Avenue, right in front of the God’s Love building. As a celebration of spring, a gift to New York, and a thank you to God’s Love for our work during COVID-19, the Lewis Miller team created a fabulous arrangement of flowers and greenery for God’s Love volunteers, staff, and all passers-by to enjoy, with a “One Love” sign by Scott Froshauer Art. After passers-by enjoyed the Flower Flash all day, our Legacy Society members enjoyed a discussion with Lewis Miller and Board member and designer Alfredo Paredes about Miller’s recent book, “Flower Flash.” Thank you, Lewis Miller Design! Visit our YouTube channel at youtube.com/godslovewedeliver to see our Flower Flash.
God’s Love We Deliver Receives U.S. Congressional Earmark Funding

God’s Love We Deliver is thrilled we have received Community Project Funding in the recently passed Omnibus Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2022. Community Project Funding allows individual members of Congress to allocate federal funding to projects and programs to address the needs in the communities they represent.

We are pleased to announce the funding will be used to improve our critical data infrastructure and move our program into the future of care delivery. This update to our systems will not only assist our staff but will ensure our clients continue to receive the high level of service they expect from God’s Love We Deliver. This funding is vital as God’s Love continues to expand and grow to meet the needs of the populations we serve.

We are so grateful to our longtime champion, Congressman Jerrold Nadler, who included our request in the House Bill, and to Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand for their support on the Senate side. We also thank State Senator Brad Hoylman, former Council Member Margaret Chin, Council Member Carlina Rivera, City Meals on Wheels, Project Eats, and City Harvest for their support of our 2022 Community Project Funding Request.

EVENTS:

Join us at the Golden Heart Awards

God’s Love We Deliver and Michael Kors invite you to the Golden Heart Awards on Monday, October 17 at The Glasshouse in Manhattan. With host Billy Porter, we are thrilled to honor Huma Abedin, Jessica Alba, Bella Hadid, and Karen Pearl. The gala is an in-person event with a virtual option. Join us for what is sure to be a fabulous night in support of God’s Love!

Please visit glwd.org/goldenheartawards for more information.
Volunteers Celebrating 1,000+ hours of Service

Thank you to the many volunteers who have achieved the milestone of volunteering 1,000 or more hours while at God’s Love. You make such a difference with every hour that you give. Thank you, and we look forward to many more!

David Abramson  George Dussan  Sueanne Kim  Martha Palma
Joan Adler  Donald Eckert  Liz Kinney  Ruth Pardo
Carol Alexander  Janice Elkinson  Phyllis Kirschenbaum  Ann Parker
Mitchell Applebaum  Aurora Estner  Jeff Kohler  Marco Pievani
Mary Pat Archer  Lorna Facey  William Komar  Nancy Pirodsky
Victoria Arzano  Lynda Feld  Susan Kupferberg  Leslie Plotkin
Gayle Balsky  Daniel Feldman  Jocelyne Lamour  Mark Porter
Marilyn Bardo  Stephanie Fine  Alfonso Lee  Lily Potter
Debbi Baum  Richard Fink  John Lee  Edward Prostak
Joan Bennett  Mary Fong  Pauline Lee-Pristin  Vincent Rada
Suzan Bernstein  Martin Friedman  Jicky Leidicke  Leila Raibourn
Ann Bodnar  James Gallagher  Irv Lerner  Carol Rapoport
Jeri Boylan  Nicole Gallagher  Wing Tat Leung  Bill Riegel
Rusty Breedlove  Joyce Garlick  Herb Leventer  Barbara Roberts
Marla Jo Brickman  Laurie Gilbert  Angel Levy  Aimee Ross
Michael Brodesky  Charlie Gerald jr  Minna Lipkin  Barbara Rubel
Paul Brozman  Timothy Gibson  Cindy Little  Allison Saunders
Sharon Cacioppo  Roslyn Gilbert  Mindy Liu  Randy Savitt
Sunny Cade  Denise Gilson  Shirley Logan  Judith Schasberger
Terry Callaghan  Dorothy Gingeras  Dennis Luczak  Evan Schwartz
Kathleen Caronna  Fred Goldberg  T. j. Luty  Brian Scribner
Avon Chandler  Sharon Goldfarb  William Lux  Marsha Shaw
Sherry Chang  John Goodfriend  Leila Mae Makdissi  Jane Shea
Lloyd Cheu  Barbara Gould  Marlene Malamy  John Sheehan
Lynn Christie  Norma Grant  Michael Mango  Jacqueline Shore
Edward Coffina  Manuel Greer  Andy Marber  Joan Simon
George Cominskie  Sara Grodensky  Charles McEwen  Darnley Simon
Mari Cossaboom  Karen Groeger  Patrick McGuire  Suzy Sobel
Paula Coyne  Mary Hatch  Patrick Mchugh  Angelo Sperrazza
Elizabeth Currey  Scott Hayter  Francis McLaughlin  Bonnie Stanke
Brenda Curtis  Mark Heffin  Joyce McShane  David Stern
Maggie Cusimano  Terry Hoffer  Helen Messina  Neil Stevenson
Drew Dasent  Dan Horowitz  Thomas Miller  Lawrence Swehla
Peter Daw  Brian Hotaling  Andrew Mire  Merritt Tam
Debbie Deitcher  Desmond Hunnighen  John Moore  Ilda Teran
John DeRemigis  Lucy Hwang  Robert Nagle  Klaus Villa
Randy Deutsch  Linda Irby  Don Newcomb  James Walsh
Mary Devine  Joanne Jablown  Michael Normile  Nadia Wechsler
Jon Devries  Alice Jan  Kathy O’Callaghan  Bob White
Gerald Devouge  Adriane Jenkins  Babi Ocean  Lavern Whyte
Molly Dieterich  Barbara Jones  Jim O’Connor  Jonathan Wind
Florence Dixon  Susan Kantrowitz  Richard Ophals  David Wise
Bill Douglass  Linda Kates  Robert O’Sullivan  Annie Wong
Karen Duda  Michael Kenny  Joseph Page  Stacy Young
All summer long, our volunteers and delivery team were hard at work packing and delivering bags of shelf-stable meals for our clients. When finished, our team delivered 5,555 bags containing four full days of shelf-stable nutrition for every client, child, caregiver on our program. This is in addition clients’ meals in case we are unable to make regularly scheduled deliveries. Thank you to our great community and extraordinary volunteers who helped get it done. Thank you for being there for our neighbors affected by life-altering illness and helping us prepare for times when they need our support the most.

If you would like to sponsor a bag of shelf-stable meals for just $26, please do so at glwd.org/shelfstablemeals

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**Highlights from our Last Fiscal Year**

- **2,826,713** meals cooked and home-delivered
- **9,057** clients, children, and senior caregivers served

**Began serving new populations by:**
- Creating a new program for pregnant New Yorkers with gestational diabetes
- Creating a new meal program for veterans with PTSD, expanding to serve veterans with all mental health and/or substance use issues

**Continued tailoring and enhancing our menu by:**
- Creating a gastrointestinal-friendly diet
- Incorporating new culturally-appropriate recipes to our menu
- Sourcing antibiotic-free chicken, grass-fed beef, and wild-caught fish

**Received Congressional earmark funding,** thanks to the efforts of Congressmembers Chuck Schumer, Kirsten Gillibrand, and Representative Jerry Nadler

**Continued advancing health equity** by targeting our outreach to systemically neglected and under-resourced neighborhoods

**Became the sole charity partner of New York City Wine & Food Festival**

**Secured second location** the historic Northern Dispensary in the West Village

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**NEWS:**

**Delivering Shelf-Stable Security**

VOLUNTEER JEFFREY KING WITH A BAG OF SHELF-STABLE MEALS
HOLIDAY SHOPPING:

Send “Gifts from the Heart” this Holiday Season

This holiday season send a “Gift from the Heart” and help God’s Love We Deliver provide nutritious meals to New Yorkers living with life-altering illness.

We’re thrilled to share our brand-new 2022 catalog that includes many standout items, including Chuck’s Famous Brownies, red velvet cookies, and brand new spice blends our chefs have developed in partnership with single-origin spice company, Burlap & Barrel. You’ll also be able to purchase trays created and curated by John Derian and Alfredo Paredes Studio, a Gratitude candle that will sparkle in your home created exclusively for us by Harlem Candle Company, holiday tribute cards, and program items to sponsor.

To help you plan a truly delicious holiday table from appetizer to dessert, within the catalog you’ll find mouthwatering recipes we have included from five of our great friends.

Our thanks go to David Burtka, Samah Dada, Padma Lakshmi, Julia Turshen and Zac Young for sharing such beautiful and flavorful creations with all of us.

Check out the catalog this fall, so you can plan wonderful gifts for yourself and your loved ones! Thank you in advance for sending “Gifts from the Heart,” this holiday season.

Check for these holiday catalog items on our website at glwd.org/shop.

- RED VELVET COOKIES
- THREE NEW SPICE BLENDS DEVELOPED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BURLAP & BARREL
  PURCHASE SPICES AT BURLAPANDBARREL.COM/GLWD
- CHUCK’S FAMOUS BROWNIES
- “CHRISTMAS TREE UNVEILING” AND “THE STAG” TRAYS BY JOHN DERIAN AND ALFREDO PAREDES STUDIO
- GRATITUDE CANDLE BY HARLEM CANDLE COMPANY
Share the spirit of the holiday season with our God’s Love personalized holiday tribute cards. Tribute cards are the perfect way to share love, gratitude and warm wishes with beloved family members, cherished friends, and valued business associates. We continue to make the joy of sharing convenient for you!

For a minimum of $15 per paper card, we will personalize your name on each card, stamp and mail the card with your return address on the envelope.

For a minimum of $150, we also offer digital animated and non-animated e-cards that can be shared by email with your name or business logo.

For more information, please go to our website glwd.org/holidaytributecards.

HOME

GRACE
Photograph by Jicky

MAGIC
Photograph by Suzanne Poli ©

WISH

LOVE
Drawing by Art Glazer

PEACE
NEWS:

Frosting and Batter... But It’s the Love That Matters

Did you know that every client, senior caregiver and child on our program receives a personalized birthday cake on their special day? To make this happen, God’s Love holds an annual Birthday Bake Sale fundraiser. Baking, personalizing, and delivering birthday cakes is one of the most meaningful things we do. It ensures our clients feel loved and acknowledged on their special day. From Chef Dorothy to our bakery volunteers, to our friends who promoted this initiative on social media, our springtime fundraiser was a collaborative success! Thanks to you all, we reached our $20,000 goal to fund 2,000 delicious cakes for our clients.

You can sponsor a client’s birthday cake any time for just $10 at glwd.org/bakesale.

CONNECT WITH US!

We are proud to have earned a coveted 4-star rating on Charity Navigator for the 9th year in a row.