

The Lighthouse Waterville Area Soup Kitchen

More than a Quarter Million Meals Served



Meals Served

- FEB - 9,080
- MAR - 9,860

- APR - 10,640
- YTD - 39,408

Average Cost per Meal • \$2.00

On March 19, friends and supporters of the Waterville Area Soup Kitchen gathered at the Elks Club for our second annual Tropical Escape Fundraiser. If last year's event was fun and successful, 2026 raised the bar even higher. We welcomed many familiar faces while also meeting new friends.



DJ Steve Colella set the tone for the evening with lively island music during cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Once again, the always entertaining John Perry conducted the live auction. A sellout crowd enjoyed an exciting selection of new and unique auction items.

We were pleased to recognize Hannaford Supermarkets and several of their representatives who joined us for the evening. Through Hannaford's Fresh Rescue program, volunteers from the Lighthouse visit local Hannaford stores at least twice each week to collect truckloads of fresh food to support our meal program.

In 2025 the Waterville Area Soup Kitchen received approximately 30 tons of food from local stores. That support is a large part of why we are able to serve fresh green salads and fruit salads so often, offer baked goods at breakfast, and provide deli meats for sandwiches. It is a true community partnership with meaningful, measurable impact.

Most importantly, thanks to the generosity of our community, we surpassed last year's fundraising total, raising enough to produce more than 15,000 meals, enough to feed our guests for 1½ months. We remain deeply grateful for the continuing compassion and support that sustain us month after month.



"No One is Left in the Dark"

The Waterville Area Soup Kitchen has launched an ambitious capital campaign inspired by the very heart of our mission at the Lighthouse: to be a source of light for neighbors facing hardship and uncertainty. At its core, our work begins with meeting the most basic human need - nutritious food. But the Lighthouse strives to offer more than a meal. We seek to help illuminate a path forward for those working to overcome barriers such as physical and mental health challenges, limited life skills, and housing instability.

Our recent decision to purchase the building that has housed the Lighthouse for the past four years reflects a long-term commitment to this work and to the people we serve. The challenges facing our community cannot be solved overnight, and we believe stability and consistency matter. Owning our home ensures the Lighthouse can remain a dependable resource for years to come. Since November of 2020, WASK has been strengthened by extraordinary community support. That generosity gives us confidence as we move forward with this campaign, which will help us:

- Recover a portion of the building purchase investment
- Complete essential repairs and infrastructure improvements
- Strengthen fundraising systems for long-term sustainability
- Expand space for additional community programs and resources

*Lighting the Way:
A Campaign for Hope and Stability*

To support this campaign, please use the QR code to make your donation



