



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ALERT – for September 24, 4-6pm**

**WHAT:** Rachel's Table of Western Massachusetts celebrates its 350 volunteers!

**WHEN:** Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 4-6pm

**WHERE:** Sinai Temple, 1100 Dickinson St., Springfield, MA

**WHAT ELSE:** Barry Kriger, retired Anchor/Copy Editor, 22News WWLP, is the MC of the evening. There will be music, light refreshments, a segment of WWLP's InFocus with RTWM volunteers shown, gratitude, and many supporters, and volunteers from the 350 who drive, dispatch, glean, garden, advocate, serve, teach, help administer and more. We are a small staff but a mighty team with dedicated volunteers at all levels of the organization.

Did You Know? A staggering 1 in 3 households in Western Massachusetts grapple with food insecurity. In Hampden County, 48% of households are food insecure; in Hampshire and Franklin Counties, it is 37% (The Greater Boston Food Bank). Here at Rachel's Table of Western Massachusetts, we believe that communities can make a difference in reducing that need. Without our volunteers, the over \$830k pounds of food wouldn't have gotten to people from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

Join us in volunteering! [www.feedwma.org](http://www.feedwma.org)

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### **About Rachel's Table**

Rachel's Table of Western Massachusetts (RTWM) is a grassroots, volunteer-driven hunger alleviation organization. RTWM was founded as the food rescue and recovery program of the Jewish Federation of Western Mass in 1992 and became an independent non-profit in July 2023. Through our four programs (rescue, purchase, glean, and grow), we provide holistic solutions to 65+ partner agencies and networks across Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties. Our programs provide food to people in need as well as directly support food insecure communities to plan, plant, and harvest their own food. Our operations are powered by 350 volunteers, including teen leaders who encourage their peers to educate themselves, serve others, and advocate for change. RTWM targets both immediate hunger crises and root causes of hunger, working to feed and nourish Western MA one delivery, one glean, one garden at a time. For more information on how to volunteer or donate, visit [www.feedwma.org](http://www.feedwma.org)

### **About Rachel's Table Teen Board**

The Rachel's Table Teen Board's goal is to support the organization in alleviating hunger and reducing waste of food resources in Western Massachusetts. Partially sponsored by a grant from The Harold Grinspoon Foundation, the Rachel's Table Teen Board focuses on alleviating childhood hunger and educating their peers about local hunger and poverty issues, and then involving them in being part of the solution. For more information on the teen board and the work they do, visit @rachelstableteens on Instagram or email the teen board director, Sarah Bate, at [sbate@feedwma.org](mailto:sbate@feedwma.org).