

The Community Table

WINTER 2007 EDITION

Nourishing Our Community.

That simple, bold phrase sums up what we do here at The Community Table. At a mission planning retreat on November 10th, the staff and board members discussed a new mission statement. This one, "Nourishing Our Community" (Credit to Tom Massie for the concise phrase) encompasses not only the nutritional value of our service, but also nourishment of the soul through fellowship and encouragement.

The rest of the meeting was spent discussing how to support our various programs, brainstorming ideas for several ventures that could bring in much needed money, as well as increasing community awareness. The meeting was a great success! The proposals, including the new mission statement, will be voted on after the New Year. We look forward to posting news of our progress as we get the ball rolling.

Samantha Crawford has been our Community Table kitchen manager since the beginning of July 2007. With her tasty meal creations, use of regional and ethnic flavors, and strong support, more guests are feeling welcomed to enjoy a hot meal as they dine with fellow members of our community.

When you come in to the Community Table you may have an empty stomach, but when you leave, you will have left behind an empty plate.



Our Survey to Better Serve You

Recently, guests at the Community Table completed a confidential survey that will help the board and staff see where and how we can improve the encouragement and nourishment that the Community Table provides to our dinner guests and supporters.

So far, our survey has revealed that dinner guests are very pleased with the staff and volunteers and the food that is served. We have also learned that our guests would like to see more activities provided at the Community Table such as group discussions, support groups, personal hygiene workshops, nutrition presentations, cooking classes, exercise and physical education, and occasional live music performed as guests dine. Also among the results, there was a request to consider extending our serving hours, and we found that the best way for the community to hear about us is through the words of a friend. Many of our guests were made aware of the Community Table through invitations from friends (and some of them can live up to 40 miles away)! The results of this survey have uncovered several areas ready for growth, which in turn provides additional opportunities for volunteers in the community to come and be a part of the nourishment and encouragement one can share when they walk through our doors.

Whether it is inviting a friend to dinner, giving a ride to your neighbor, or bringing in your musical instrument to play as we serve, the Community Table *has been* and *is still becoming* a place for anyone in the community to come and have a seat at our Table.

The Free Willy Campaign 2007!



After receiving bountiful donations to the Community Table and its Food for Kids program, Willy, our brave and courageous turkey, now roams free! When asked why he decided to participate in the campaign and risk becoming a Thanksgiving Dinner himself, he replied, "Gobble. Gobble." Clearly Willy is among countless other sacrificing supporters and volunteers in Jackson County that wish to see the plates and stomachs of all our families, friends, and neighbors full this Holiday season. A special thank you to all who made a contribution to the Free Willy Campaign and the Community Table, and a thank you to all the local businesses that helped make the campaign possible. Remember, we take donations year-round, large or small, Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall!

Here's Your Sign.

Have you had trouble finding us? Our new sign constructed and donated by the First United Methodist Church of Sylva provides a new, bold, and beautiful invitation for anyone in the community to come and dine with us. Have you been thinking about having a meal with us? Consider this your invitation to a hot, nutritious meal every Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 4-6pm. Do you need to bring anything with you so you can eat with us? No. You can bring a monetary donation or bring a canned food item if you are able. You could also consider becoming a volunteer to cook or serve, or take a few invitations to help spread the word about our delicious meals. Come taste the warm food and encouragement to be found at the Community Table.



Points of Interest

- *Mission Planning
- *Free Willy Campaign
 - *New Sign
 - *Guest Survey
- *Upcoming Events
 - *Wish List

Board of Directors and Staff

- Tom Schutte
Board Chair
- Barbara Thomas
Vice Chair
- Kay Turpin
Past Chair
- Mary Ann Lochner
Secretary
- Renee Cohen
Treasurer
- Jennifer Abshire
- Heather Baker
- Paula Clark
- Lisa Gaetano
- Anita Stephens
- Rick Kirkpatrick
- Tom Massie
- Veronica Nicholas
- Brenda Oliver
- David Skinner

Volunteers of the Month

- July: Rosie Reeser
- August: Louise Orr
- September: Tracy Robinson
- October: Linda Carppocia

Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

The Community Table
 PO Box 62
 Dillsboro, NC 28725

Please Place
 Stamp Here

Phone: 828-586-6782
 Fax: 828-586-1882

E-mail: communitytable@verizon.net

We are on the web!
www.communitytable.org



Nourishing Our Community.



Upcoming Dates...

Harvest Feast: Thank you to all who made our Thanksgiving Celebration a memorable event on November 20th! Your presence and donations of food and time helped make this event possible! Special thank you to local family and individual volunteers, Terry's Produce, The Church of the Good Shepherd, The Sylva Church of Christ, Nutrition students at WCU, and staff at Scotts Creek Elementary School.



Holiday Cookie Bake: December 7th 4-8pm at the Community Table. We baked the cookies, now you get to decorate them! Bring your friends and family! All donations go towards the Food for Kids Program.

Please RSVP by December 3rd.

Blue Plate Special: Join us for lunch every last Wednesday of the month for \$5 a plate. No Blue Plate Special for the month of December.

We will be closed November 21st-26th for Thanksgiving, December 20/21st-26th for Christmas, and December 31st-January 1st for New Year's Eve.

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION EVENTS:

Community Holiday Party: Monday December 3rd, 4-8pm at WCU Ramsey Center. Collecting food donations for Food for Kids and Community Table.

Dr. Fred Fisher's WCU Students- collecting money towards the Food for Kids program until Wednesday, December 5th. Contact Dr. Fred Fisher at WCU.

Uncle Bill's Flea Market: Collecting food items for the Community Table beginning November 26th thru December 16th.

Wish List

<u>Kitchen</u>	<u>Office</u>
• Canned Vegetables	• Copy Paper
• Canned Meats (Tuna/Chicken/Pork)	• Stamps
• Ground Beef	• Volunteers
• Ground Turkey	<u>Building Needs</u>
• Paper Towels	• Rubber Guard for Garage Door
• Trash Bags	• Storage Bins
• Volunteers for Monday and Tuesdays	• Door Knob with Lock and Key
<u>Food for Kids</u>	• Gutter Clean-Up
• Program Manager Position	
• Kid-Friendly Food Items	
• Monetary Donations	

Call 586-6782

We cater.

Call us to schedule a special lunch or dinner for your family, business, or organization.!

Donor Form:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Amount Enclosed: _____



Please make checks payable to The Community Table; detach and mail this form to
 The Community Table PO Box 62, Dillsboro, NC 28725

The Community Table is a non-profit organization; we rely solely on grants and the generous support of area individuals, businesses, and organizations to continue operation. Please include the form to the left with all monetary donations. Thank you for your support! All donations are tax-deductible.