

PRESS RELEASE

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Merrimack Valley Credit Union and Members Provide 1,700 Meals to Frontline Workers

Merrimack Valley Credit Union and its members raise \$15,000 to feed frontline workers at Lawrence General Hospital

Lawrence, Mass. (May 26, 2020) – Harnessing the power of a caring community, <u>Merrimack Valley</u> <u>Credit Union</u> and members contributed \$15,000 to help two groups that have been hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic: those who work in healthcare on the front line and those in the restaurant industry. Through its "Feed the Frontline" program, Merrimack Valley Credit Union used the funds to purchase 1,700 meals from seven local restaurants for the hardworking healthcare professionals at <u>Lawrence</u> <u>General Hospital</u>.

"As the fight against the coronavirus stretched resources and shuttered businesses, we at Merrimack Valley Credit Union knew we could do more to help our community," said John Howard, President & CEO, Merrimack Valley Credit Union. "We were so impressed to see such an overwhelming response from community members, raising \$5,000 for our 'Feed the Frontline' program. We decided to double our contribution to \$10,000, bringing our grand total to \$15,000."

Merrimack Valley Credit Union utilized the funds to purchase 1,700 meals from local restaurants, including Merrimack Valley Credit Union members Essex Street Grille in Haverhill, Salvatore's and Romano's Pizzeria in Lawrence, and Buono Bistro in North Andover. The organization also purchased meals from Borelli's in Methuen, and Perfecto's Caffe and Pipe Dream Cupcakes in North Andover. Each restaurant delivered meals to Lawrence General Hospital on an assigned day, spreading the kind gesture out over the course of two weeks.

"Our employees have worked tremendously hard over the past two months to respond to the growing COVID-19 crisis," said Kelly MacLean Clark, Chief Development Officer, Lawrence General Hospital. "We appreciate the support we have received from Merrimack Valley Credit Union. The organization's efforts to donate meals for our employees has reminded them of the compassionate community that is thinking of them during these trying times."

"Everyone at Romano's is thankful we could participate in the 'Feed the Frontline' program with Merrimack Valley Credit Union, providing meals for healthcare workers," said Constance Francisco, Owner, Romano's Pizzeria. "My niece is a registered nurse at Lawrence General Hospital, and I know how hard they are all working. It's an honor to do whatever we can to help them."

For more information about the Feed the Frontline program, visit <u>www.mvcu.com</u>.



Caption 1: Merrimack Valley Credit Union and members contributed \$15,000 through its "Feed the Frontline" program to purchase 1,700 meals from seven local restaurants for the hardworking healthcare professionals at Lawrence General Hospital. Pictured above, employees from Salvatore's in Lawrence deliver 130 pizzas to staff at Lawrence General Hospital.



Caption 2: Merrimack Valley Credit Union and members contributed \$15,000 through its "Feed the Frontline" program to purchase 1,700 meals from seven local restaurants for the hardworking healthcare professionals at Lawrence General Hospital. Pictured above, Manny Francisco and Chris Jarbeau, owners of Romano's Pizzeria in Lawrence, deliver meals to Lawrence General Hospital.

About Merrimack Valley Credit Union

Merrimack Valley Credit Union is a state-chartered community credit union with more than \$1 billion in assets. Merrimack Valley Credit Union serves anyone who lives, works, volunteers, or attends school in the Merrimack Valley region, and through its Bridgewater Credit Union division, Barnstable, Bristol, Norfolk or Plymouth counties. Merrimack Valley Credit Union offers a wide range of savings and loan products to meet the financial needs of its members, and has 10 branch locations in Bridgewater, Fairhaven, Haverhill, Lawrence, Methuen, North Andover, Plymouth, and Quincy, Mass., and Plaistow and Seabrook, N.H.

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