

## Table to Table surpasses 1 million pound mark

For the first time in its 15-year history, Table to Table surpassed the million-pound mark in food it rescued within a fiscal year for distribution to local social service agencies and meal programs.

“We are really excited to have gone over the million pound mark.” said Table to Table Director Bob Andrlik, “When we did the final tally, it came in at 1,030,886 pounds. This is quite a milestone and it is a tribute to the local business donors, our volunteers and the Iowa City community as a whole for working together at this level to help get food to people in need.”

Table to Table, founded in 1996, is a food rescue organization whose mission is to keep wholesome, edible food from going to waste by collecting it from donors and getting it to those in need through agencies that serve the hungry, homeless and at-risk population in Johnson County. The food Table to Table distributes provides a source of daily nutrition for children, the elderly, chronically ill, jobless, homeless, and working poor in Iowa City and Johnson County who would otherwise go hungry. Since its inception, Table to Table has rescued more than 9 million pounds of food.

Donations are collected from area groceries, restaurants, bakeries, dairies, schools, Farmer's Markets and food wholesalers. The majority of food rescued is nearing its "best use" date and is being replaced on store shelves with newer product. It can also be excess prepared but not served food from restaurants or schools. This food is still wholesome and edible, but can no longer be sold. In the past, this food would have been lost to the landfill.

Table to Table volunteers pick up the donated food and distribute it to more than 25 area non-profit agencies, including the Crisis Center Food Bank, Shelter House, Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County, Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Free Lunch Program, Salvation Army and Ronald McDonald House. This food is distributed at no charge to the agencies which helps to support their programs by minimizing their need to purchase food.

For more information on Table to Table, including the list of donor businesses who helped make the million pound mark possible or to find out about how you can become a Table to Table volunteer, please visit [www.table2table.org](http://www.table2table.org) or contact Bob Andrlik at 319.337.3400.