



Join us for the KCJJ Radiothon!

Annual fundraiser for Table to Table
scheduled July 15-16 at new Wal-Mart

We need volunteers!

Do you have a few hours each week to help us pick up and deliver food donations? See page 2.

Annual dinner: the best yet!

This year's annual fundraising dinner was a huge success — in fact, the best we've ever had! More info on page 2.



Table to Table

A food rescue organization that helps provide food and meals for the hungry in Iowa City and Johnson County

The right thing to do.

20 E. Market Street
(Old Brick)
Iowa City, IA 52245
319.337.3400

www.table2table.org

Check us out on Facebook!



Table To Table is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1996 in Iowa City. We are a United Way agency, funded by financial gifts, grants, and fundraisers.

KCJJ's Captain Steve, Tommy Lang, and Tom Suterman will be at it again July 15 and 16 — raising money to help support the work of Table to Table through their annual 31-hour Radiothon. The event, scheduled to be held outside the new Wal-Mart on Highway 1, will also collect non-perishable foods, paper products, and supplies for the Crisis Center Food Bank. The event is one of Table to Table's biggest fundraisers of the year, and we need your help to ensure its success this year!

The live remote broadcast kicks off at 5 a.m. on Friday, July 15th, running through noon on Saturday, July 16. Come on out to join the fun, say hello to the Mighty 1630 KCJJ crew (and support them through their wacky descent into sleeplessness!), drop in a donation for Table to Table (remember to bring your donations for the Crisis Center, too!), and support KCJJ's efforts to make a difference in the Iowa City community.

Keep an eye on their website: www.1630kcjj.com for updates, and mark July 15 and 16 on your calendar to join us at the KCJJ Radiothon!

Donations received so far

As we finalized production of this newsletter, the following businesses and organizations had already committed to donating to this year's Radiothon, raising over \$7,000 before the event even gets underway! Our thanks to the **Iowa City Masonic Foundation**, \$3,333; **JM Swank**, \$1,000; **Eagles Club**, \$750; **Southslope Co-operative Communications**, \$750; **US Bank**, \$500; **KCJJ Radio**, \$500; and **Skogman Realty**, \$250. Please join their efforts to make this the best Radiothon ever!



We need volunteers!

Summer's here — which means most of our student volunteers have headed home for the summer, and other volunteers have plans to take some time off for vacations.

This leaves gaps in our food pick-up schedule, and creates a logistical challenge for our Volunteer Coordinator, David Wellendorf, whose job calls for filling 42 volunteer slots each week.

If you can help out with some volunteer hours, we'd love to hear from you! Routes run mostly in the mornings and take a couple of hours at the most. It's a great chance for you to see firsthand what we do and how our organization works. David will pair you up with a seasoned volunteer and you'll have the opportunity to get some fresh air, exercise, meet great people, and know you are helping those in need. You may find that you enjoy it so much that you'll want to become a regular volunteer!

Please contact David at t2tvolunteers@gmail.com or call 319.631.6179 to find out how you can join the Table to Table team.



Table to Table volunteers load food donations into our van for delivery to a local nonprofit for meal programs. Do you have extra time this summer? If so, call us — we need your help!

2011 fundraising dinner: Our first sellout event!

On April 7, Table to Table hosted its 15th annual fundraising dinner — and thanks to your support, it was our most successful dinner in the history of our organization. For the first time, we had a sellout crowd (218 guests!) and raised over \$20,000 for our food rescue program.

This year's event, held at the University Athletic Club, featured a "Tour de France" theme, with area chefs contributing French-inspired dishes for the event. Pianist Dan Knight provided the musical ambience for the social hour, while guests enjoyed an array of hors d'oeuvres and bid on items that had been donated for our silent auction. Even though the weather was dismal outside, the atmosphere indoors was festive, demonstrated by some spirited bidding on several auction items.

Featured speakers David and Lisa Bluder spoke about the importance of keeping food from going to waste and how food rescue organizations should be more widespread and operating in more cities. David, who has taught business classes at the University of Iowa, presented information from his perspective as an active Table to Table volunteer who

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Fundraising dinner

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recognizes and appreciates the efficiency of our organization. Our volunteers help maximize the impact of each dollar received, he stated. In 2010, Table to Table provided food that equated to approximately 650,000 meals to the community at a cost of \$0.23 each.

One of the highlights of the evening was the drawing for this year's raffle prize, a TREK bicycle valued at \$1,000, donated by World of Bikes Iowa City. The lucky winner was Melissa Tjebkes. Congratulations, Melissa!

As always, the success of our fundraising dinner relies on the donations and gifts of many businesses, organizations, and individuals in the community. Our website (www.table2table.org) lists all those who contributed this year. Please visit our site, click on the "Annual Dinner" tab and take time to thank those who helped us put together an incredibly successful event in 2011.

Want to see photos?

To see (or order!) photographs taken at the event by local photographer Mauro Heck, visit the "Annual Dinner" page listed above and click on "Mauro Heck Photography." Thank you, Mauro, for recording the memories for us!

Table to Table: *a 15-year retrospective ...and a thank you*

Table to Table, Iowa City's food rescue organization, celebrates its 15th anniversary this year. It is a milestone to be celebrated, as well as a tribute to a community that has rallied around us and helped support our efforts to ensure that people in Iowa City and Johnson County do not go hungry.



Bob Andriik,
Table to Table Director

Looking back, we recognize that our founders' plan was simple, yet so visionary. Essentially, they took two problems – food that was going to waste, and hunger in our community – and used them to help solve each other. In the first year, volunteers used their own vehicles to rescue 44,000 pounds of food that otherwise would have been thrown away, and distributed it to a handful of local agencies for use in their meal programs. In our 15 years of service, Table to Table has rescued more than 8.1 million pounds of food – more than 864,450 pounds in 2010 alone.

While our organization has grown through the years, the basic concept is still the same. Grocery stores, food warehouses, restaurants, and other businesses donate their excess foods, which we pick up and deliver to more than 26 local nonprofits and programs, at no charge. The foods are then used in meal and food distribution programs, and people in our community who are facing hard times are provided with free meals or groceries.

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Table to Table: *a 15-year retrospective*

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But 15 years have brought change, too. Instead of a handful of volunteers who drive their own vehicles, today we have three vans, over 100 volunteers, and 44 pick-up and delivery routes each week. In addition to keeping these foods out of the landfill and putting them to good use, the food donations help stretch the budgets of the nonprofits we work with, so that funds can be diverted to other services and programs that are needed in our community.

With the tremendous support and collaboration we've received, nutritious foods have become part of a local food system designed to combat hunger. Table to Table relies entirely on outside funding and volunteerism to run our agency, and without that help, we simply couldn't have done what we've done, nor would we have lasted this long. We are here because of you, and we want to take this opportunity to offer a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has facilitated and contributed to our success, including:

- our **Table to Table founders** who 15 years ago sowed the seed that has grown into the organization we are today;
- the **local and area businesses** that have so generously provided us with ongoing donations of food. They are listed on the Table to Table website at www.table2table.org. Please take the time to learn who they are and support them with your patronage.
- the **volunteers** who put their compassion into action 365 days per year by picking up and delivering donations to help others in need;

- the **individuals, organizations, and businesses** who have provided the financial contributions and essential funding necessary to keep our work going, and who have supported us in countless ways through our annual fundraising events;
- the **board members**, both past and present, who donate their time and talent to help guide the direction of our agency; and finally,
- the **local nonprofits and organizations** we work with who do an incredible job of completing the cycle by getting these foods to individuals and families who need it.

While we're proud of the work we've done, it is pride tempered by the awareness that despite our best efforts, hunger is still an issue in our community, and the need is growing. There are people in Johnson County who struggle every day to put food on the table – children and single-parent families, as well as the elderly, sick, jobless, and homeless – many of whom never imagined they could find themselves in such need.

As we embark on our next 15 years, we would like to ask you to join us in our fight against local hunger by extending your help and support as a volunteer, food donor, or financial contributor. Your efforts can have a real impact on the lives of people in need, as well as on the agencies that provide a critical safety net in our community. Our motto says it all: *Table to Table – it's the right thing to do*. Thanks to all of you for the support you have given that allows us the privilege to do what we do.