

Food for Thought

nourish your body, nourish your mind



Our Volunteers are Everything!

Vilasini, Harshan and their mom, Sugitha help deliver food to local shelters and safe houses in the city.

Rochester, NY, home of our beloved Sri Vidya Temple, ranks #2 in worst cities for child poverty in the nation. One of the ways Bhoja is positively impacting the Greater Rochester community is through the delivery of fresh, healthy food to organizations feeding those in need. The homeless often lack transportation or the means to get to food banks and soup kitchens to get something to eat. However, if they are at a shelter, and we are partnering with that shelter, then we are able to provide nutrient rich foods directly to the homeless or those in need of food. Our goal is to increase the number of shelters we collaborate with so that we may serve more people.

1

BHOJA TEAM

Veggie prep took place on May 5. We had a team of six helping!

2

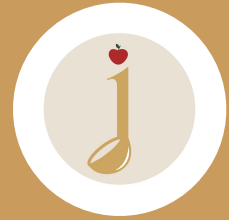
MEALS SERVED

23,300
as of May 16, 2023

3

COLLABORATIONS

partnering with 211 WNY to provide emergency meals to local shelters



Teams

Marketing
Operations have team leads!



Team Leads

Sripada Kondur, pursuing a degree as a Physician's Assistant, Sripada is Director of Marketing at Bhoja Inc



Saravana Bushan, project manager by profession, is Director of Operations at Bhoja Inc.

Food Safety, SOPs & Kitchen Equipment

Operations Task Force takes a look at Bhoja processes and makes changes

In the last few weeks, our kitchen volunteers have taken the **Food Handlers Safety** certification - required by New York State for those working in food preparation. The food safety course is an important step in learning about food allergens, safe cooking procedures and prevention of cross-contamination in order to keep foods safe for consumption. We are happy to report that all our kitchen volunteers will be fully certified by the end of May.

Operations Lead, Saravana, is in the process of evaluating our operating procedures. By assessing work zones and work flow the goal is to create and implement SOPs (standard operating procedures) to make our work more efficient. All modifications are sure to improve our process which will impact preparation and cleanup timings. Stay tuned for updates on this project!

We need your help! We are looking to update our most essential cooking appliances - slow cookers. These slow cookers are prepped the evening before our scheduled food delivery date, cook throughout the night, and are ready by morning. This is how we are able to prepare, package, and deliver several hundreds of meals each week with just under two hours of preparation.



“If a pot is cooking, the friendship will stay warm.”

-Arab Proverb

Currently we are using twelve, 6qt slow cookers to make all of our meals. Each cooker makes 25 meals. After three years of use and 23,300 meals prepared, our cookers in need of an update. We are looking for individuals who are interested in sponsoring the next set of slow cookers. The new cookers will have 10qt capacity and can make 40 meals per use. To sponsor a slow cooker, use our affiliate link on amazon and have the slow cooker delivered to us:

Amazon link: <https://amzn.to/3WjpXfJ>

Deliver to: Bhoja Inc
901 Rush-Scottsville Rd
Rush, NY 14543

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

First and foremost, thank you so much for your continued commitment to Bhoja's Annadānam service. It is because of supporters like you that we've made it this far and will continue to make strides in addressing food scarcity in our community.

As we all know, support for this mission comes in many forms. Community contributions in the form of time and monetary donations are much appreciated! You can donate to Bhoja directly via Zelle by clicking on the QR code and entering: donate@bhoja.org.

No amount is too small. 100% of the donations go towards the preparation of healthy, nutritious meals for our community's most vulnerable. Thank you!

donate@bhoja.org

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