

thank
you!



Open Arms of Minnesota is deeply grateful for our longstanding partnership with Ameriprise Financial. Over the last 26 years, Ameriprise has generously supported the preparation and delivery of more than 45,000 medically tailored meals through corporate grants. In addition to investing in our mission, Ameriprise encourages employees to give back to the community, supporting Open Arms in our kitchens, on our farms, and on the road delivering meals directly to clients.

On June 2, we welcomed more than 30 Ameriprise volunteers to the farm and our new St. Paul kitchen for a fantastic day of team building and service! Thank you, Ameriprise Financial, for your dedication and partnership!



GET ANOTHER SCOOP OF NEWS!

Do you want to read more updates from Open Arms?
Use the QR code to check out the FULL SCOOP online!



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the **SCOOP**

A helping of news from
Open Arms of Minnesota
Summer 2023

FROM THE GROUND UP

It's time to get dirty as harvesting season swings into full gear at our farms!

In this
edition!



News



Events



Volunteer
Opportunities



Proud Partners

NEWS

A NOTE FROM OUR CEO, LEAH

Where did the summer go? On July 25, I was honored to deliver our 12 millionth meal to a very grateful client. As important members of our Open Arms family, you already know that every decision we make begins with what's best for our clients. That said, I am happy to report that our Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met **IN PERSON** last month after more than three years of virtual meetings due to the pandemic! This group provides valuable insight into the needs of our clients, which informs our entire team on future decisions made about our programming. As a bonus, they were also treated to a Hmong meal sampling! I hope the remainder of your summer is packed with good times!

FARM FRESH

For Kelly Wilson (Open Farms Manager) and her team, putting our clients first is always top of mind. This summer they planted, grew and harvested crops at our five Open Farm locations with the help of 20+ organizations and more than 400 volunteers. They have assisted us in planting and harvesting 275 pounds of Salanova lettuce, 400 pounds of zucchini and summer squash, 250 heads of lettuce, 1,750 radishes, and we've just begun harvesting seven varieties of cherry tomatoes! Our farms will also produce vegetables for some of our Hmong menu recipes, including harvested Yokatta-na and Napa cabbage. If you're ready to get your hands dirty, we love seeing you at our farms!

EVENTS



October 5 | 6:30 p.m.

When you purchase a ticket for a **Pop-Up Dinner**, you also help to support a weeks worth of meals for a client. Treat you and your favorite person to a Pop-Up Dinner prepared by our talented chefs in Minneapolis on Oct. 5!



Open Arms Catering

Book your next event or business outing with us! Open Arms is excited to roll out new catering options later this fall. Rent our space and choose from unique catering menus, crafted by our in-house chefs. All catering proceeds help fund client meals!

TOAST!

TOAST!, Open Arms' beloved annual volunteer appreciation event, returned with tremendous excitement and fanfare in August. More than 350 volunteers were treated to an evening of laughter, prizes, games, and of course, **DELICIOUS FOOD!** The event took place at the St. Paul Kitchen & Campus and served as both a celebration of and a thank you to our volunteer community. This year's theme, "The Perfect Pair," played on the union between Open Arms and our volunteers, setting the stage for a fun competition among our staff who did their best to create the perfect culinary pairing. Thank you to everyone who attended! Be sure to check out the pictures online!

SWEET TREATS!

Cupcakes For A Cause is back! Thanks to our proud partner, Lunds & Byerlys, the beloved annual event returns September 7-10. During that time, Lunds & Byerly's will generously donate \$1 from each gourmet cupcake sale towards client meals at Open Arms! All locations are participating, so grab yourself a tasty treat and support medically tailored meals for our critically ill neighbors!



In just 4 minutes, we can have a good, healthy meal ready - which leaves me more time for my husband. At this age and after 67 years together,

our time with each other is so meaningful.

Because of Open Arms, we eat healthier and maybe add a few more precious times together. Thank you!

- An Open Arms Client



VOLUNTEER

We've made it through the dog days and are now aiming to cap off the summer on a high note! While recruiting volunteers during the summer months can be more challenging, this community has risen to the occasion to ensure our clients receive the medically tailored meals they need. From getting hands-on at our farms to navigating construction season, our volunteers have excelled throughout the summer, and we can't thank them enough.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Open Arms! Scan the QR Code on the right or visit www.openarmsmn.org/volunteer to sign up.

