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## MORE COVERAGE

### More Lynn families seeking assistance this Thanksgiving

By David Liscio  
 Thursday, November 17, 2005

**L**YNN - Wanted: 300 turkeys.

My Brother's Table, the city's volunteer soup kitchen, is collecting frozen turkeys between 10 and 12 pounds that will be cooked and served to the needy on Thanksgiving.

According to Ilia M. Stacy, executive director of the soup kitchen, the Lynn Hunger Network is reporting an increase in families seeking assistance during the upcoming holiday.

"We need 300 more turkeys than are available through local food banks," said Stacy, adding that the turkeys are needed by Friday, for distribution the weekend before Thanksgiving.

The turkeys will be served at the Lynn soup kitchen as well as at food pantries, social service organizations and schools.

Employment layoffs, reduced work hours, and rising utility costs are forcing families who were self-sufficient in past years to seek help with food in 2005.

Hunger Network members report an increase in the number of grandparents raising grandchildren, single-parent families, and young adults requesting assistance.

My Brother's Table, the North Shore's largest soup kitchen, will serve a free Thanksgiving dinner from 2:30 to 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 24, at its 98 Willow St. headquarters in Lynn.

"Everyone is welcome," she said. "Seconds will be served to make sure that no one leaves hungry."

The downtown soup kitchen serves a free dinner every day of the year.

Putting on the Thanksgiving meal will require about 50 turkeys. Any extra turkeys will be used at Christmas and, throughout the winter.

My Brother's Table relies on donated food for every meal served. Hundreds of turkeys will be shared with other hunger programs throughout the city.

"You can buy a 10-pound frozen turkey for about \$5, so we hope people will be generous again this year," Stacy said.

For more information or to donate a turkey, call the soup kitchen at (781) 595-3224 or e-mail Stacy at [istacy@mybrotherstable.org](mailto:istacy@mybrotherstable.org).

Due to health safety and storage concerns, frozen turkeys are preferred over fresh or thawed birds. Turkeys may be dropped off at My Brother's Table from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 12-4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

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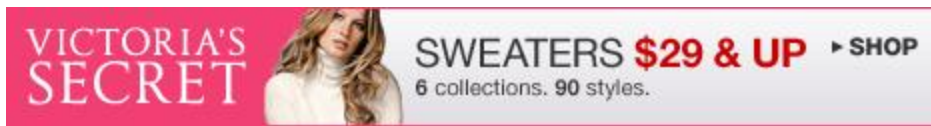
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