

A Message from Dan Moon

I have been involved with St. Stephen's Table for close to 10 years. Over this time I have worked with students from Berkshire Country Day. They have usually come a couple times a month and helped to serve the tables and provide meals to people in need.

Often I feel people think we feed primarily homeless people, but that is not necessarily the case. All people are welcome to eat at the table and often it is their life circumstance that brings them there. That circumstance might be money, lack of work or the inability to hold a job, or perhaps even poor life choices.

Being a public school teacher for 13 years I have now seen some of more former students come to the table. I have seen folks whom I have known, and are my age, come to the table. I have seen people come to the table who struggle with drugs, alcohol, and depression. Whatever the people's reason we provide a nutritious meal and a place to eat that meal.

Imagine how your teachers might feel if one of their former students was a guest at the table. It is hard for me and I often wish there is more that I could do. Working at the table teaches me to be grateful for my life. When I think of the challenges I face in life, most of them are good problems compared to figuring out where your next meal might come from and where you might sleep.

Not all of the guests express gratitude but occasionally one does and it feels good. Personally the table has been ingrained into my life and I am not sure what I would do without it.

BCD has been a strong part of our program over the years and there is no big reward at the end. I think you need to be satisfied knowing that you went out of your way to help someone out. It is an eye-opener of some of the problems our society faces: on one side so much wealth and on the other, so much poverty. I wish that I could be at your morning meeting however I can offer this letter. Thanks so much for considering helping out at the table.

Dan Moon
