

Please Join Our Table

The Community Table prides itself on being a community. Each day, volunteers, staff, and guests share a table, breaking down economic barriers and thus feeding not only bodies but also spirits. The support of the Eau Claire community has enabled the organization to serve thousands of meals to those in need over the past 15 years. Right now, The Community Table needs your help in raising \$155,000, to support the relocation, renovation, and rent increase.

We would also be happy to work with you on a customized giving plan. Please contact:

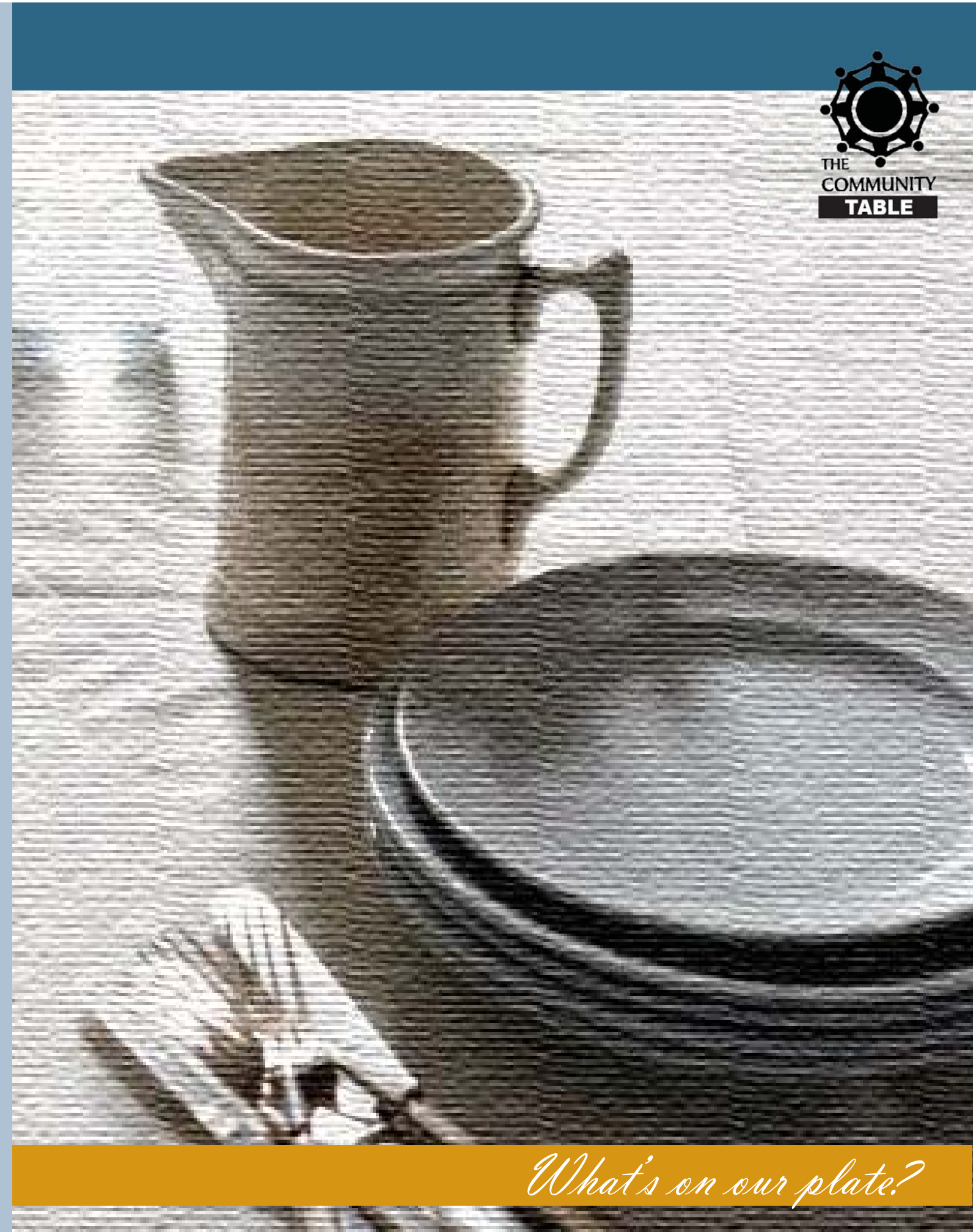
Hollie Moe, Director

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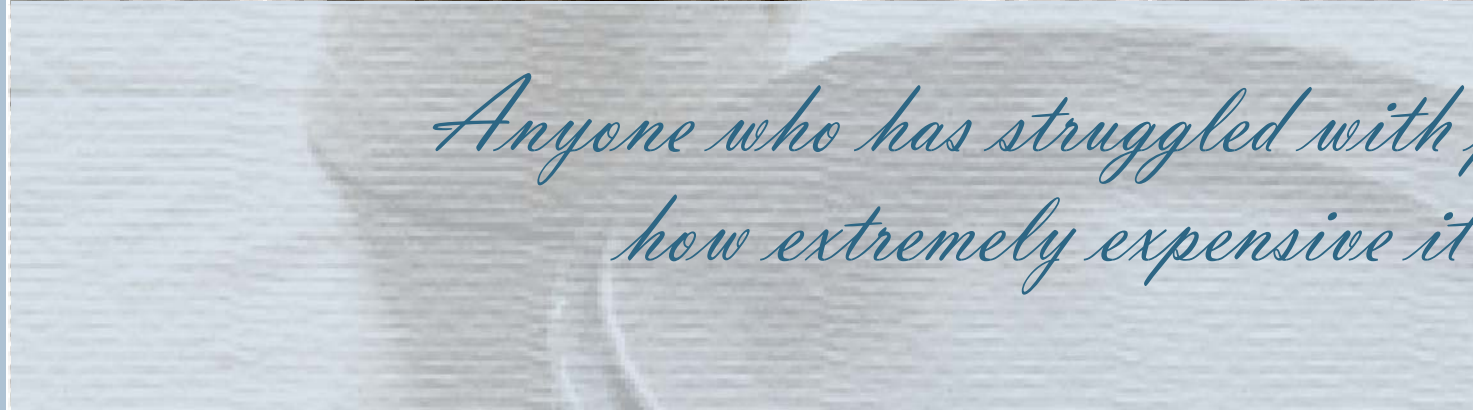
What's on our plate?

The Mission and History

The Community Table recently celebrated its 15th anniversary of serving hot food and hospitality to those in need in the Eau Claire Area. What began as a grassroots initiative to serve a few meals a week, has developed into a daily meal schedule. A 501 (c)3 non-profit organization, The Community Table currently serves one meal per day, 365 days a year to anyone in need of food for any reason. The strength of the organization is its volunteer base; each day a group of volunteers sponsors the meal, preparing and serving, and cleaning up afterwards. On average, over 100 meals are served at The Community Table each day, and in 2008 over 4,000 volunteers helped serve over 38,000 meals. This community investment has enabled the organization to meet its mission:

To serve hot meals to those in need of food and hospitality and to educate the public on the needs of the community.

National and local statistics demonstrate that even more people in the community could benefit from the organization's services, and the current economic state indicates that this need will continue to grow.



Anyone who has struggled with poverty knows how extremely expensive it is to be poor.

~ James Baldwin

Changes and Challenges

The Community Table was recently notified that the organization will be displaced from its current location. Six years ago, The City of Eau Claire agreed to house The Community Table in the basement of the Parks and Recreation building for the low rental cost of \$1.00 a year. However, due to current budget challenges, The City of Eau Claire has decided to sell this building. The Community Table views this as an opportunity to better meet its mission. Undoubtedly, the needs of hungry individuals and families in the area will continue to grow, and the current space is already inadequate to meet these needs.

Building our New Table

After extensive research and evaluation of options, The Community Table has signed a lease with Cigan Properties and will be relocating to Putnam Street on July 1, 2009. The rental company has agreed to renovate the dining room and office space to meet our needs. Through a partnership with Benedict Refrigeration Services, The Community Table is responsible for designing and renovating the kitchen. The new location will not only accommodate the growing number of patrons, but is also centrally located and accessible to low-income residents. The cost of renting and renovating this space is the best option for a sustainable location.

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