

PRESS RELEASE

Sponsored by:



United Way of
Massachusetts Bay
and Merrimack Valley



Ending Youth Homelessness in Boston One Relationship at a Time

Liberty Mutual Insurance Awards Open Table \$100,000

to Train Volunteer Teams to Become Champions for Youth Experiencing Homelessness

BOSTON, MA, June 10, 2022 - As an expansion of its efforts to address the youth homelessness crisis in Boston, Liberty Mutual Insurance has awarded \$100,000 to [Open Table](#) to implement its evidence-driven, community-based support models for youth and young adults experiencing multiple challenges, including homelessness, poverty, mental illness, substance use disorders, trauma and other barriers to well-being.

Open Table's model brings together youth experiencing homelessness, "Friends," and small groups of community volunteers, "Tables" to build relationships and remove barriers to well-being. In the Open Table process, "Friends" experiencing homelessness define the barriers they are encountering to reach their individual goals, and trained volunteer "Table Members," access their social networks for solutions. Through the process of forming relationships and working together, both Friends and Table members develop a new civic purpose to transform youth homelessness, one relationship at a time.

"Forming a connection with a trustworthy adult through mentorship, counseling and other services is a vital step in helping youth reach their full potential," said Melissa MacDonnell, President, Liberty Mutual Foundation, Vice President, Community Investments. "Open Table's model of relationship-building and access will help meet the increasing needs of youth as well as support young people as they build the stable and fulfilling future they so deserve."

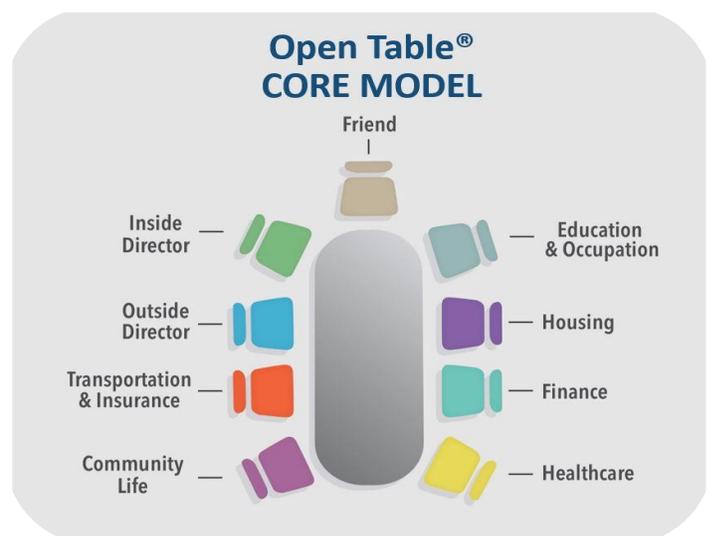
As a signature program within Liberty Mutual's corporate giving strategy, the company has committed more than \$20 million to youth homelessness efforts since 2018, partnering with organizations that have helped more than 3,800 young people exit to stable housing and nearly 1,200 young people find transitional housing. Alongside these efforts, Liberty Mutual has partnered with key stakeholders, commissioned original research, encouraged discourse with young people with lived experiences and worked with community leaders to stay informed on this vitally important topic.

In Boston, Open Table will train community members to participate in two of its models:

- **Network Table (open for volunteers now):** a team of 10 community members trained to map and access their social networks to remove one specific barrier to reaching a goal defined by the Friend. A Network Table can serve up to 50 youth over the course of a year.
- **Core Table (open for volunteers soon):** a team of 4-6 community members trained to develop long-term relationships with a Friend and access their social networks to remove barriers to a life plan the Friend has developed. A Core Table serves one Friend over the course of a year.

Community members serving on Tables receive online training through Open Table University, which is built on a theory of change, tools to measure fidelity, and ongoing support from Open Table. Project outcomes will be tracked by data gathering and pre-post evaluation. Bridge Over Troubled Waters, a long-time partner of Liberty Mutual, will refer youth to Tables.

Jon Katov, Founder and CEO of Open Table, expressed appreciation for the new partnership, saying, “We are grateful to Liberty Mutual for their generous support and commitment to models that train communities to become an outcome partner to transform youth homelessness. We are also thankful to Bridge Over Troubled Waters for their partnership in referring youth and their needs to Tables. When we share relationship and social networks with others, we become people who live for each other. When we all connect in this way, a better life for every youth experiencing homeless becomes a movement. One at a time means not one forgotten.”



The Boston Partners for the Open Table project include: (link websites)

- Bridge Over Troubled Waters
- Y2Y Network
- United Way of Massachusetts Bay

Community members can now volunteer for Tables. Information sessions will be held on June 27 in various locations. Watch your email for more information.

About Liberty Mutual Insurance

At Liberty Mutual, we believe progress happens when people feel secure. By providing protection for the unexpected and delivering it with care, we help people embrace today and confidently pursue tomorrow.

In business since 1912, and headquartered in Boston, today we are the sixth largest global property and casualty insurer based on 2020 gross written premium. We also rank 78 on the Fortune 100 list of largest corporations in the U.S. based on 2021 revenue. As of December 31, 2021, we had \$48.2 billion in annual consolidated revenue.

We employ over 47,000 people in 29 countries and economies around the world. We offer a wide range of insurance products and services, including personal automobile, homeowners, specialty lines, reinsurance, commercial multiple-peril, workers compensation, commercial automobile, general liability, surety, and commercial property.

For more information, visit www.libertymutualinsurance.com.

Contact:

Molly Stern

617-470-4898

molly.stern@libertymutual.com

About Open Table

Open Table is a 501 (c)(3), non-profit corporation headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona, founded in 2005. Open Table develops models that train communities to form meaningful outcome partnerships with national and community-based organizations. By creating open access to a community's relational and social capital, these cost effective shared purpose partnerships successfully empower individuals and families to live into the lives they envision for themselves and their children. Trained in 33 states, Open Table unites communities and organizations in data-driven, cost effective, outcome-producing relationships focused on removing barriers to well-being. Through Open Table models, communities are partnering with the healthcare, government, business, social service, education, faith-based, emerging social enterprise, and other important sectors. Open Table have been implemented in youth-related projects in 26 states. Open Table has fifteen completed or in-process studies, including case studies published by Baylor University.

Learn more about Open Table by visiting www.theopentable.org

Contact:

Jon Katov

jonkatov@theopentable.org

602-793-0533