



MY BROTHER'S KEEPER
A Christian ministry of loving service and education

Our Mission:
"To bring the Love and Hope of Jesus Christ to those we serve."

Along the Way

We deliver furniture, food, and Christmas assistance free of charge to local families in need with no prerequisites for service.

SEPTEMBER 2022



"We're just the delivery people. This is the man who sent you the furniture."

Another milestone reached: **200,000TH DELIVERY** Completed in Christ's name!

On Tuesday, August 23rd, My Brother's Keeper quietly reached another major milestone by completing its 200,000th delivery in Christ's name.

In a fitting testament to the power of community, we don't actually know who completed the 200,000th delivery or who received it!

As of noon on August 23rd, we had completed 199,960 deliveries. That afternoon, we sent out five routes of food deliveries from our Easton and Dartmouth facilities serving 60 households.

All vehicles left around the same time and one of those 60 families received the 200,000th delivery.

"I'm very proud of this incredible accomplishment and all the good in God's name that it represents," said Erich Miller, president of My Brother's Keeper.

"Every time we celebrate an achievement like this, I think of the literally tens of thousands of volunteers and supporters — both living and deceased — who have helped us serve so many of our neighbors in need in Christ's name since 1988. My Brother's Keeper wouldn't be the ministry we are today without our community, past and present."

My Brother's Keeper completed its 100,000th delivery on December 24th, 2013 — twenty-five years after Jim and Terry Orcutt began serving families in need from the cellar of their Taunton home.

As a testimony to our growth, My Brother's Keeper completed the second hundred thousand deliveries in just nine years.

The next hundred thousand will happen even faster!

My Brother's Keeper is currently making 18,000 - 19,000 deliveries per year and that annual number is expected to grow after the Easton Building Project is completed.

That means the 300,000th delivery will likely be made in 4½ - 5 years, sometime before the end of 2027.



Left to right, Josh Smith, Director - Dartmouth, and Beth Collins, Manager, Food Assistance Program have been on staff since 2007 and Ryan Thorley, Director - Easton, since 2005.

Josh, Beth, and Ryan have collectively given 50 years of outstanding service to My Brother's Keeper. Their leadership has been instrumental in completing many of our 200,000 deliveries.



EASTON BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE:

Start Date Moved to January 2023

Permitting for the Easton Building Project has moved slower than expected. The process requires a civil engineering peer review but COVID-related staffing issues at local firms made it difficult for the Town of Easton to engage a consultant. The peer review is now well underway, though, and we expect to secure our permits in late fall.

It's a "good news-bad news" scenario for My Brother's Keeper.

The bad news is we've lost time and our projected start date has moved from October 2022 to January 2023.

The good news is that a January start of construction will allow us to conduct this year's Christmas Program at the Easton facility.

Christmas will be here before we know it! We've already started accepting Christmas requests and we look forward to welcoming you back to the building in the coming months.



Our Mission:

“To bring the Love and Hope of Jesus Christ to those we serve.”

THEN

In 2002, Erich Miller, Nathan Patla, Doug Lawrence, and Fr. John Murphy, CSC pose for a photo in front of the Easton facility on the day The Divine Servant sculpture was installed.

NOW

Twenty years later, Erich Miller, Ryan Thorley, Doug Lawrence, Josh Smith, and Jim Orcutt have their picture taken in the same location to help celebrate the 20th anniversary of Doug's year of service at My Brother's Keeper.



The Mission Remains the Same

By Doug Lawrence, former Holy Cross Associate at My Brother's Keeper, 2002-03

In the summer of 2002 just after I graduated from the University of Notre Dame, I began a year-long service program run by the Congregation of Holy Cross. Participants served at charities in cities located near a Holy Cross community. I was sent to Brockton and my service placement was My Brother's Keeper.

2002 was the year My Brother's Keeper moved into its current Easton location next to Stonehill College. That December, the energy among the staff and volunteers as we ran the Christmas program out of the new facility was something I'll never forget. It was a formative year as I developed many friendships and, most importantly, brought the Love and Hope of Jesus Christ to those we served.

In August, I returned to My Brother's Keeper for a week of service. I was immediately struck by the fact that while the staff and operations have grown including a brand-new building in Dartmouth, the mission remains the same. I felt the same sense of passion and community that I did twenty years ago.

Jim Orcutt taught me that a good mission statement, “tells you why you do something and not what you do.” Everyone that works at My Brother's Keeper understands why they are there, and it is to bring the Love and Hope of Jesus Christ to those we serve. Even though our tasks may differ we are united by this common mission.

How else could you explain the afternoon of furniture deliveries we did in Fall River during my visit?

It was ninety-five degrees and all of us were sweating before we got out of the delivery truck. Yet we eagerly delivered a new queen-sized bed to Joe. It was his first new bed in 18 years.

Michael lacked a couch for his apartment. When we carried it in, he realized his living room would need to be rearranged so the couch could fit. Working together we had it done in a matter of minutes. Finally, we brought four beds to Maria's third floor apartment so her children could have a place to sleep. Two other crews from the Dartmouth building who had finished their deliveries showed up to support. We were tired and sweaty but smiling. We knew why we were doing the work we did and we bonded together even though some of us had only just met prior to those deliveries.

The mission of My Brother's Keeper is directed both outward to the community in need of direct assistance and inward to all the volunteers and staff that interact with each other daily. I encourage everyone to appreciate the unique experience of collaborating with others across ages, genders, political ideologies, and even sports team affiliations (!) to bring the Love and Hope of Christ into the world. I feel like this is how God intended us to be and yet it seems so rare in today's world.

I want to thank Jim and Terry Orcutt and Erich Miller for being so hospitable in welcoming me back to My Brother's Keeper. I also want to express my appreciation for the work of Ryan Thorley, Josh Smith, and Beth Collins. All three were college volunteers who worked with me during my year of service twenty years ago. To see them in leadership roles today is truly inspiring.

Remember, whether you have been a long-time member of the My Brother's Keeper family or are volunteering for the first time, the mission always stays the same.

Walking The Camino for Themselves & for My Brother's Keeper

Volunteers Joe Gelly and Eddie Alicea are making a pilgrimage that many only dream of.

From September 7th through the second week of October 2022, Joe and Eddie will hike the French Way of "The Camino," an ancient religious pilgrimage in Spain walked by 350,000 people each year.

For more than a thousand years, the Camino de Santiago – the Way of St. James – has welcomed and challenged Christians from around the world. The trek is a haven for prayer and self-reflection. It often serves as a reminder that the slow, deliberate journey is as meaningful as the destination.

Eddie and Joe's hike will begin in St. Jean-Pied-De-Port in southern France, traverse the Pyrenees Mountains, and continue along the rolling hills of northern Spain. God willing, their journey will finish 484 miles later in Santiago de Compostela, the burial place of St. James the Apostle.

In addition to their personal motivations, Joe and Eddie have decided to make their pilgrimage even more profound by using it as an opportunity to raise funds for My Brother's Keeper.

Donations in honor of their pilgrimage will support our Easton Building Project, major renovations which will significantly strengthen our ability to deliver furniture, food, and Christmas gifts to local families in need in Christ's name.

Before taking their first steps on The Camino, Joe and Eddie have already raised more than \$14,000 towards their \$25,000 goal, with the help of The Lynch Foundation which is generously matching every dollar raised.

As they progress on their pilgrimage, My Brother's Keeper will be sharing photos and updates from Eddie and Joe on our Facebook page and website. Please stay tuned!

Messages of support and encouragement from our community

May God bless you and keep you.

Many blessings each step of the way.

Have a great time on this journey; it is sure to be a life changer!

Good luck and God bless you on this journey.

Joe and Eddie, we are so proud of you both!! Be safe and enjoy.



Summer Service for Seminarians

My Brother's Keeper continued its tradition of hosting seminarians for summer service placements as part of their formation.

Liam Johnson from Chicago, Illinois, and Jack Cahill from Charleston, South Carolina (top picture) are seminarians with the Congregation of Holy Cross, the order which founded Stonehill College and the University of Notre Dame.

Brother Micah Kim from Huntsville, Alabama, and Brother John Henry Peters from Saline, Michigan, are seminarians

with the Dominican order, the founders of Providence College (bottom picture).

These four men made a tremendous impact to our work serving families in need this summer. In return, they had beautiful experiences of community and Christ-centered service.

"This ministry is really just an incredible experience of both giving and receiving human charity which is really God's love working in and through our neighbors," said Br. John Henry. "It's been a terrific summer at My Brother's Keeper."





The Bond of Mothers The Love They Share for Their Children

By Erich Miller, President

In early August, My Brother's Keeper was delighted to welcome volunteer groups from Xaverian Brothers High School to both our Easton and Dartmouth facilities.

Students were participating in Xaverian Leadership Institute (XLI), a five-day Servant Leadership retreat for rising seniors which takes place each summer on the campus of Stonehill College.

As part of the XLI service component, I had the privilege of leading three Xaverian students and one recent alum on a furniture delivery in Quincy.

Our delivery was to Isha, her husband, and their three kids ages 8, 5, and 2 months. The family was originally from India and recently moved to their apartment from a local homeless shelter. The shelter helped the family with beds but they had almost nothing else—no couch or chairs to sit on, no dressers for their clothes, and no table to share a family meal.

That's where My Brother's Keeper came in. We were only there, though, because Isha had a kind and concerned neighbor, a woman of Irish descent named Patty.

Patty was truly her brother's and sister's keeper. She saw that her neighbors were in need and she got involved. That doesn't seem to happen much these days — we all seem to be busier and more private, myself included — and I really respected Patty for that.

Isha didn't speak much English and didn't know the area. Patty, however, knew where to find resources and knew how to advocate for help.

"It's funny," Patty said. "I always wanted to have a big family but I ended up having only one child. He's 30 years old and he'll always be with me. He's autistic. I've fought my whole life for him and I always will."

To overcome the language barrier, Patty used Google translate on her phone to communicate with Isha and she called



My Brother's Keeper on her behalf. Patty was waiting outside the apartment building when our truck arrived. She greeted us warmly and took us inside to meet Isha and the family.

It was beautiful to witness the care, concern, and genuine friendship between these two mothers. They were from different countries, different cultures, and different generations but they had a strong bond — the love they share for their children.

It was a hot day but thanks to the hard work of the Xaverian crew, it didn't take long to move all the furniture in and set everything up. We were touched that Isha picked up a Gatorade for each of us from the convenience store next door as a sign of her family's gratitude — incredibly generous given their situation.

We said our good-byes and with Patty's help translating, I offered Isha our final gift, the crucifix along with message, "We're just the delivery people. The furniture is from Him."

India is primarily Hindu and Muslim. I had no idea what Isha's religion was and what her reaction would be. She hesitated at first but then gratefully accepted the crucifix and made a sign of the cross. Patty was in tears witnessing all this. We gave her a cross too and one for all the children.

It was another beautiful experience witnessing these two women share a spiritual moment, this time bonded by their reverence for God who loves all His children.

It was a tremendous privilege to meet Isha, her family, and Patty and to be able to share the day with the Xaverian volunteers. Patty and Isha were wonderful examples of true servant-leadership and I know the young men will always remember them.

SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT



FAMILY MATTERS. NO MATTER WHAT.®

If you ask someone well acquainted with Canton-based Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company to describe the organization, you would most likely hear the word, “family.” After all, the company’s brand includes the slogan, Family Matters. No Matter What.

Perhaps that’s why Boston Mutual Life has become such an important partner to My Brother’s Keeper. Family is at the root of both organizations’ mission.

For the past 10 years, Boston Mutual Life and its employees have supported the work of My Brother’s Keeper in a number of important ways. Here are some of the highlights:

- Financial donations over the past 10 years: \$258,750
- Christmas volunteer hours since 2018: 155
- Employees participated in Family Walk since 2018: 95

When COVID-19 halted on-site Christmas volunteering for Boston Mutual Life in 2021, they coordinated a Christmas toy drive, collecting dozens of new toys that were distributed to local children served by My Brother’s Keeper.

Realizing the recent challenges many families are facing due to inflation, Boston Mutual Life’s Making

An Impact team coordinated a baby product drive in the summer of 2022, donating more than 1,400 items valued at \$600. The diapers, wipes, and other related items were gratefully received by families served through our Food Assistance Program.

Members of the Boston Mutual Life senior management team have also served as thought leaders for My Brother’s Keeper. Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President, Paul A. Quaranto, Jr. and Vice President of Individual Solutions, Nick Barishian, have played key roles on the Easton Development Board at My Brother’s Keeper.

When asked what it is about My Brother’s Keeper that keeps Boston Mutual Life so engaged, Paul Quaranto responded, “The relationship has become part of our fiber at Boston Mutual Life. We look out for family and My Brother’s Keeper is like family to us.”

We at My Brother’s Keeper count it a true blessing to have family like the employees of Boston Mutual Life, who constantly look for new ways to help us accomplish our mission.



Messages of Thanks from Those We Serve

With each day my son experiences recovery, I am reminded of the beautiful pathway that is being paved through the power of prayer and love.

My family and I are truly grateful for all our blessings as My Brother’s Keeper and its purpose continues to provide hope for those in need.

My Brother’s Keeper has replaced my son’s worries of yesterday with the new beginnings of today.

Many thanks to you all for helping smooth the unsettled road my son has walked for many years.

We are truly blessed.

I just had to call to say thank you so much for the grocery gift cards you sent! I know there are lots of people out there struggling and every little bit helps. You all are doing so much for the community that I thought I would call and say thank you for your ministry.

I could not be more blessed. I have been really tested this year. My strength and belief in God got me through and your messengers of the Lord — OMG! — had a light to them that immediately changed my house to a home. I am super grateful. God bless.

Our Facilities



EASTON



DARTMOUTH

My Brother's Keeper Prayer

Lord—

*When I have food,
Help me remember the hungry.*

*When I lie in my bed,
Help me remember those who sleep on the floor.*

*When I have a warm home,
Help me remember the homeless.*

*When I have work,
Help me remember those without jobs.*

*When I experience the joy of giving to my children,
Help me remember the agony of those who must
watch their children go without.*

*By remembering,
Help me destroy my indifference,
And arouse my compassion.*

*Make me concerned enough to act in your name,
To help those who cry out to you for that which I so
often take for granted.*



MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

A Christian ministry of loving service and education

CO-FOUNDERS

James H. Orcutt, Sr. | President Emeritus

Theresa Orcutt | Secretary

OFFICERS

Erich E. Miller | President

Theresa Orcutt | Secretary, Co-Founder, My Brother's Keeper

James Philbin, CPA | Treasurer, Partner, Marcum LLP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rev. Anthony V. Szakaly, CSC | Director of Campus Ministry and Alumni Minister, Stonehill College

Joyce M. Donadio | Program Manager, Home Base

Ryan J. Gelly | Student, Harvard University

Deacon Brian Kean | Senior Vice President, Wingate Management

Donna B. Lane, CPA | Controller, Bentley University

Erich E. Miller | President

William H. Ohrenberger, III, Esq. | Ohrenberger, De Lisi & Harris, LLP

Theresa Orcutt | Secretary, Co-Founder, My Brother's Keeper

James Philbin, CPA | Treasurer, Partner, Marcum LLP

Martin A. Reynolds | Volunteer, My Brother's Keeper

Brendan M. Sullivan | Owner, Sullivan's at Castle Island

Deacon Daniel F. Sullivan | St. Agatha Parish

EASTON DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Mary M. Keough-Anderson, CMP, CMM | Chair, Meeting Management Consultant

Nicholas Barishian, LLIF | Vice President of Enterprise Risk Management, Boston Mutual Life Insurance

Richard Kendall | Volunteer, My Brother's Keeper

Paul Key | Chief Development Officer, My Brother's Keeper

John F. O'Donoghue, III | Pilgrim Skating Arena, Inc.

Alex W. Ogozaly, CPA | Chief of Staff, Global Fund Banking, Silicon Valley Bank

Mark H. Payson, Jr. | Volunteer, My Brother's Keeper

Stephen F. Sypek | Senior Vice President, UBS Financial Services

Richard Wade | Vice President, State Street

Laura Walsh | Nurse Practitioner, Massachusetts General Hospital

Stephen J. Wessling | President and CEO, Wessling Architects

SOUTH COAST DEVELOPMENT BOARD

William A. Suneson | Chair, Co-Founder and Managing Director, Next Generation Insurance Group

Christine Cavanaugh, CPA | Volunteer, My Brother's Keeper

Kimberley Coon | Executive Director of Hospital and Medical Staff Services, Southcoast Health

Nicole Dias | Director of School Counseling, Bishop Stang High School

Janice Foley | Founder, Jani Communications

John Higgins | Executive Finance and Operations Consultant

William J. Morse | Former President, Mutual Bank

Josh Smith | Director, Dartmouth Facility, My Brother's Keeper

James Witkowski, MD | Southcoast Physicians Group

Easton Facility

PO Box 338
Easton, MA 02356

508.238.4416 Furniture & Food Assistance

508.238.7512 Donations & Business

Dartmouth Facility

PO Box 70273
N. Dartmouth, MA 02747

774.305.4590 Furniture Assistance

774.305.4577 Donations & Business