

30th Annual

hopelink

Reaching Out
CELEBRATION

Thursday, **October 16, 2025**

Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue



Table Captain Packet

A Message from Hopelink CEO

Meghan Altimore

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Table Captain for Hopelink's 30th Annual Reaching Out Celebration, our premier fundraising event! Whether this is your first time serving as a Table Captain or if you're a seasoned ambassador for Hopelink, welcome! We're so grateful for your dedication to alleviating poverty in our community.



As a Table Captain, you'll embody the spirit of this event as you reach out across your network, deepening Hopelink's impact by showing others how they can also make a difference. Throughout this process, know that Hopelink is here to support you every step of the way. Our dedicated individual Giving Team is ready to answer any questions you might have about Hopelink services, how to collect your guests' information, details about the event, and more.

This year's event is especially notable as we'll gather to celebrate 30 years of reaching out, with the first annual Reaching Out Luncheon taking place in 1995. After listening to community feedback, we decided to transition this event to an evening reception. An evening event allows us more time and flexibility to fully share the Hopelink story, highlighting the impact of our work and the voices of those we serve without the time constraints of a midday program. Despite the new name of "Reaching Out Celebration" and time of day, the purpose of this event remains the same as it's been for 30 years — to tell the stories of our neighbors experiencing poverty and support the services they and so many others turn to in times of need.

Hopelink wouldn't be the organization it is today without the support of community members like you, who continue to show up, time after time. We're so grateful for your commitment and leadership in this important work. Together, I know we can have a tremendous impact.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Meghan Altimore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Meghan Altimore (she/her)
Hopelink CEO

Key Details for Table Captains

How to register

You can find Hopelink Table Captain and general registration information by visiting hopelink.org/reaching-out-celebration.

- Registration for Table Captains opens on Monday, July 28.
- General registration will open on Monday, August 4.

Table information

- Each table seats a maximum of ten [10] guests, including yourself. Due to event policy, additional chairs can't be added.
- Wheelchair accommodations will reduce the seat count to nine [9] to ensure appropriate space and comfort.
- Table Captains must provide a completed guest list form, including emails for all guests. Forms are due by Friday, October 3.

Key dates

Monday, July 28: Table Captain registration opens

Monday, Aug. 4: General guest registration opens

Friday, Oct. 3: Table Captain guest lists due and registration closes

Thursday, Oct. 16: Evening of Event

As a Table Captain you are a valued ambassador for Hopelink. Your advocacy and enthusiasm ensure your guests become more informed, engaged, and inspired. Your partnership is critical as we work together to build a community free from poverty. **Thank you!**

About the Event

30th Annual Reaching Out Celebration
Meydenbauer Center
11100 NE 6th St., Bellevue, WA 98004

October 16, 2025

Happy Hour / Networking: 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Program: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Post Event Reception: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Featured speakers

Keynote speaker: Jason Brown

Meghan Altimore: Hopelink CEO

Lauren Thomas: Former Hopelink CEO, 2014 – 2021

Marilyn Mason-Plunkett: Former Hopelink CEO, 2006 – 2013

What to expect at the event

In addition to a complimentary dinner, you will hear from inspiring guest speakers who will share about the work Hopelink is doing to support people in need within our community.

During the event, you and your guests will be asked to give a donation to support Hopelink's work. (Minimum suggested donation: \$200)

Ways to give

As a Table Captain, you will distribute donation forms to your guests and gifts of cash or checks made out to Hopelink will be collected at the table. Guests may also give online at hopelink.org/ways-to-help/monetary-contribution.

Many Hopelink donors prefer to give gifts from their assets. Gifts of stock, IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions, and Donor Advised Funds are all very popular options and can result in greater tax advantages. Let us know if you'd like more information about these options.

Check with your employer to see if your donation at this event can be matched.



[Learn more about Jason](#)



Tips for Table Captains

Five Important Goals for Table Captains

T: Thoughtful invitations. This event is a fundraiser, so be sure to think about who in your network may have financial capacity to make a significant gift to support Hopelink's mission. And be sure to ask early and often. People are busy and may need more than one reminder.

A: Access and Allergies. Make sure you share any access needs or food allergy concerns your guests may require. We want to make sure all guests feel welcome, comfortable, and safe.

B: Be Prepared. Your guests may have questions about Hopelink, so be sure to familiarize yourself with the organization and be able to answer why you support Hopelink. We'll supply you with information you can use and if you have questions, our Individual Giving Team will be happy to support you with any information you need.

L: Leadership. As a Table Captain, you are stepping up as a leader in your community. Lead your guests through the event, encouraging them to talk with each other about their own concerns for the community and their own Hopelink stories. Feel free to find ways to make your guests feel comfortable with each other prior to the event.

E: Enjoy! This event is a celebration. We're celebrating you and the role you and your guests play in supporting Hopelink's mission. Your advocacy and generosity have accomplished amazing things for lots of people. We hope you and your guests come away feeling inspired, filled with hope for the future, and ready for the work ahead as we build a community free from poverty.

We're happy to honor your commitment with recognition in the Reaching Out Celebration program and event screens.

Guest registration due Friday, October 3, 2025

Encourage your guests to register early. Please fill out and return your guest form as soon as possible or encourage your guests to register online. (Make sure they mention your table when registering online!) Registration opens Monday, August 4.

About Hopelink

Since 1971, Hopelink has provided stability-building programs for people experiencing poverty, immigrants and refugees, and people with disabilities in North and East King County. Its mission is to equip people to exit poverty through comprehensive services, impactful partnerships, and advocacy for equitable opportunities for all. These services include food assistance, energy assistance, financial assistance, housing with case management, mobility management, non-emergency medical transportation, Dial-a-Ride Transit (DART), English for work, family development, and financial capabilities.

Our impact in fiscal year 2024 also included:

- 770 individuals experiencing homelessness trusted Hopelink with their housing
- Over \$1.3 million in financial assistance distributed
- Nearly 4.3 million meals provided
- Over \$8.6 million in energy assistance distributed
- 340 adults enrolled in Hopelink’s English for Work program



Theory of Change

Hopelink’s Theory of Change shows how we support community members at any stage—whether they’re facing immediate challenges or building toward long-term security. Our programs provide both stability and the tools needed to exit poverty. Through advocacy, partnerships, and community education, we work to address the root causes of poverty and expand equitable opportunities for all.

[Learn more about Hopelink.](#)

