

31st Annual

hopelink
Reaching Out
CELEBRATION

Thursday, October 15, 2026

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 31st Annual Reaching Out Celebration! As our premier fundraising event, it plays an essential role in raising both awareness and support for our work.

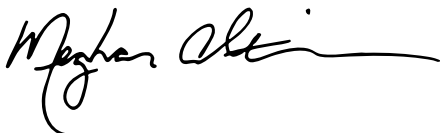
Whether this is your first time joining us or you're an experienced advocate of all things Hopelink, welcome! We thank you for your commitment to our shared vision of a community free of poverty.

Since 1995, Reaching Out Celebration has helped bring critical resources to families across our region. We're excited to once again host an evening celebration that offers a collective space to learn more about our diverse programming and feature powerful stories from individuals who have turned to Hopelink in times of need.

Table Captains represent the spirit of Reaching Out Celebration by connecting your network to our impact, inviting others to join you in making a difference. We wouldn't be the organization we are today without the support of community members like you. We're grateful for your leadership in this important work.

Our Individual Giving team is dedicated to making this experience easy for you, and they're available to help you better understand our services, how to collect your guest information, learn about all the event details, and more.

We look forward to seeing you in October!



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/reachingout.

- Registration for Table Captains opens on Thursday, Aug. 6.

Table information

- Each table seats a maximum of 10 guests, including yourself. Due to event policy, additional chairs can't be added beyond 10.
- Wheelchair accommodations will reduce the seat count to nine [9] (including yourself) so everyone has appropriate access, space, and comfort.
- Table Captains may secure a half table totaling 5 people, including themselves.
- Table Captains may secure up to two [2] tables. When responsible for two tables, a Co-Captain should be designated to manage the additional table. Please fill out an additional GUEST LIST FORM for each table.

Table Captains must provide a completed guest list form by Friday, Oct. 2, should be emailed to RSVP@hopelink.org.

Key dates

Thursday, Aug. 6: General & Table Captain registration opens

Friday, Oct. 2: Table Captain guest lists due and registration closes

Thursday, Oct. 15: Day 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

31st Annual Reaching Out Celebration
Meydenbauer Center
11100 NE 6th St., Bellevue, WA 98004

Oct. 15, 2026

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

Program: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Post Event Reception / Meet & Greet with Rick Steves:
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Featured speakers

Rick Steves: Keynote speaker

Meghan Altimore: Hopelink CEO

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/donate.

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.

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



[Learn more about Rick Steves](#)

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. 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 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, Oct. 2, 2026

Encourage your guests to register early as this event may sell out. 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 on Thursday, Aug. 6.**

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 2025 also included:

- 76% maintained or increased their housing stability at program exit.
- Over \$1 million in financial assistance distributed
- Nearly 4.3 million meals provided
- Over \$10.4 million in energy assistance distributed
- 489 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.](#)

