



The Open Door  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Saturday, November 5, 2022**

## **The Open Door Thrift Shop Second Glance Expands with SG Home**



*Back row, from left: Sales Associate Bezzie Strong, Sales Associate Joey Tofuri, Sales Associate Jim Sanford, Sales Associate Sara O'Brien, Sales Associate Laurie Chlumecky, The Open Door Fleet Coordinator Bill Stevens, and Board Director German Disla. Front row, from left: Board Co-Chair Chris Barker, volunteer Bethania Ferreras, Sales Associate Laura Hickey, Shift Leader Lisa Novello, President and CEO Julie LaFontaine, Director of Thrift Operations Susan Zwart, and Board Vice Chair Tracy Davis.*

*(Photo Courtesy of The Open Door)*

GLOUCESTER – Second Glance, Thrift Store of The Open Door, expands its store in Gloucester today with a ribbon cutting for a second building, SG Home.

The Open Door President and CEO Julie LaFontaine, Director of Thrift Operations Susan Zwart, members of The Open Door Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and members of the public gathered at 2 Pond Road at 9 a.m. on Saturday for the opening of the new space, where Mahaneys Uechi Karate Academy previously operated.

SG Home will operate in the Pond Road Plaza alongside the main thrift store, Second Glance, Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with seasonal Sunday hours.

“From a tiny closet to a shop spanning two buildings, the growth of Second Glance, the Thrift Store of The Open Door, is a testament to a community that thrives on helping one another,” President and CEO Julie LaFontaine said. “We wouldn’t be here without our shoppers or donors, who choose Second Glance knowing their dollars and treasures generate revenue to help feed local people.”

SG Home will feature furniture and home décor for every room in the house including pillows, linens, vases, and other decorative items, as well as a selection of art.

“Second Glance is so much more than a store. It’s a community of people that love art, design, and history. They know the value of reducing waste by second-hand shopping and spending dollars with businesses that have a positive impact,” Director of Thrift Operations Susan Zwart said. “SG Home is a natural opportunity for us to grow and raise more revenue for hunger-relief programs that people rely on, especially with inflation and rising food costs.”

Clothing, accessories, jewelry, handbags, shoes, books, and games and a smaller selection of home décor will continue to be sold at Second Glance’s main building in the Pond Road Plaza as well.

Second Glance’s Donation Center has also moved alongside the SG Home building for more convenient donations.

Second Glance is expected to generate 25% of The Open Door’s \$4.5 million cash operating budget this year.

For those who would like to donate, same-day appointments are available at [FOODPANTRY.org/booknow](https://www.foodpantry.org/booknow). Donation appointments allow staff and volunteers to assist donors and manage inventory.

### **About The Open Door**

The mission of The Open Door is to alleviate the impact of hunger in our community. We use practical strategies to connect people to good food, to advocate on behalf of those in need, and to engage others in the work of building food security.

Founded in 1978, The Open Door is a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit and community food resource center for low-income residents of Gloucester, Rockport, Manchester, Essex, Ipswich, Hamilton, Boxford, Rowley, Topsfield, and Wenham. **In 2021, The Open Door helped stabilize the lives and health of 8,516 people from 4,176 households through the distribution of 1.83 million pounds of food.**

For more information, visit [FOODPANTRY.org](https://www.FOODPANTRY.org).

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*The Open Door staff, volunteers, members of the Board of Directors, and shoppers celebrate the opening of SG Home during a ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, November 5 in the Pond Road Plaza.*

*(Photo Courtesy of The Open Door)*



*SG Home will sell furniture and home décor for every room in the home, open Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with seasonal Sunday hours, alongside Second Glance's main store.*

*(Photo Courtesy of The Open Door)*



*All goods sold at Second Glance are donated by local people, and displays are curated by staff seasoned with a combined 200 years of experience in thrift and retail sales.*

*(Photo Courtesy of The Open Door)*



*High quality, one-of-a-kind pieces sold at SG Home reduce waste by giving furniture and home décor a second life, and revenue of the store supports hunger-relief programs of The Open Door.*

*(Photo Courtesy of The Open Door)*