CHEERS!
YOUR LOCAL DINING & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

the village cookie shoppe
FINES? QUALITY

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What do cookies and health have in common? You might say that both are sweet rewards for hard work -- which is absolutely true -- but they are also two spectacular products of The Village Cookie Shoppe in Long Beach! How does a cookie shop produce health AND cookies, you ask? It isn’t through witchcraft or cutting down on butter, as you might guess. The healthy part of this cookie shop is actually baked right into its unique mission.

You see, The Village Cookie Shoppe isn’t your cookie-cutter kind of bakery, starting with the fact that you won’t find it by walking down the street. These cookies are made inside of a high-quality bake shop located inside of Mental Health America’s Village. The Village is a place that caters to people who live with mental health conditions in the Long Beach community. The staff of the bakery, with a couple of exceptions, are all people who live with a mental health condition.

So, these decadent treats are not just satisfying the sweet cravings of tons of people around the country, they are also feeding the futures of fellow Long Beachers.

The proceeds from all cookie sales go back into Mental Health America’s Long Beach-based programs. These programs create brighter futures for people who live with mental illness in Long Beach. People helped by these programs may have struggled in the past to find housing, work, treatment, or even family. Mental Health America helps people make these connections and re-claim their lives from the symptoms of a mental health condition. If you’ve ever been out of work, you would probably agree that just having a job can make a huge difference in how you feel about yourself and your future. That is the philosophy of Mental Health America. People are not just a diagnosis, we are all so much more than that! We are employees, students, renters, mothers, partners, and friends! It is these roles and the condition of these roles that make...
us healthy and happy! So, one simple job can expand your definition of yourself, your health, and your purpose in life.

At the Village Cookie Shoppe, being a gourmet baker of cookies of the highest caliber, means you are a hard-working, talented, paid employee doing your part in the local economy. Each buttery, delightful morsel that you taste in a Village Cookie is enhanced by the knowledge that you are doing something truly good for your community and for others when you buy them.

The employees of The Village Cookie Shoppe go on to work in retail, restaurant, and clerical positions all around our city. They take the impeccable, high-level employment skills that they have gained and utilize them to continue to live healthy, stable lives as contributing citizens of our beautiful town.

So, what about these great cookies? How do you get one? How do you begin to savor the sweet bounty of these incredible cookies AND help your fellow citizens thrive at the same time? The Village Cookie Shoppe offers a decadent variety of cookies to choose from: cranberry white chocolate, chocolate chip, oatmeal raisin, and peanut butter cookies, as well as dark chocolate brownies. All are made with the freshest ingredients and no preservatives. The cookies and brownies are shipped “baked-to-your-order” throughout the country (except Hawaii); are baked and shipped on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and, in most cases, shipped within 72 hours of ordering.

Wanna try one first? You can visit their booth at the Long Beach Downtown Farmers Market every Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or head on over to the MHA Village to purchase one from them directly. The Village is located at 456 Elm Ave. and is open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays. If you really want a special treat, stop in on a Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. You can participate in their fun community meetings where they celebrate birthdays, demonstrate talents, make announcements, and give away cookies as trivia prizes! Visit their website at www.villagecookieshoppe.com or give them a call at (888) 490-6688.

As the brilliant Booker T. Washington once said, “Nothing ever comes to one that is worth having, except as a result of hard work.” The Village Cookie Shoppe believes that the exceptional hard work that goes into their cookies makes them truly worth having…again and again and again…for the health of it!

**Village Cookie Shoppe**

**Where:** 456 Elm Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802  
**Hours:** Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Contact:** (888) 490-6688,  
www.villagecookieshoppe.com  
**Booth:** Long Beach Downtown Farmers Market on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.