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Molly Quell attends Tante Bep's charity dinner for the Week Against Loneliness

As they named their company for a cherished, elderly aunt, it's no surprise that Stephan Lems and Yaron Menneken want to give back to the elderly community. The owners of Tante Bep (Aunt Bep, in English) may have just expanded their restaurant delivery service to Amsterdam, but they still found the time to participate in the Week Against Loneliness.

The Week Against Loneliness is a week of activities sponsored by the Nationale Coalitie Tegen Eenzaamheid (National Coalitions Against Loneliness) which aims to prevent loneliness amongst the elderly.

The duo hosted a dinner for elderly persons at Ristorante Da Braccini on October 1, 2012. They recruited volunteers to keep them company during dinner, bridging a common generational divide. Many of the volunteers were friends of Lems or Menneken who agreed to spend their evening providing conversation and good company.

The evening had a turnout of over 30 people, including 8 volunteers. They served a multiple course meal, including an appetizer, soup, entree, and dessert. Da Braccini is one of the many Tante Bep offers through its delivery service. The owner, Monica Braccini, also expressed her interest in giving back to the community, saying "It's always nice to do something for the community."

The attendees were found through services which provide assistance to the elderly, such as grocery delivery services. They were invited because they were considered at risk for loneliness, as they had little family to visit them. Unfortunately, this problem is seen often and Tante Bep wanted to do their part to combat it.

They plan on doing the event in the future and are looking for volunteers. It could be an especially valuable experience for those in the process of learning Dutch and looking for some practice. You can contact Stephan Lems at <email address> for further information.

Sidebar

Tante Bep - [www.tantebep.nl](http://www.tantebep.nl)

Week Against Loneliness: <http://www.komdedeuruit.nl/>

Da Braccini - <http://www.dabraccini.nl/>

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