

SPECIAL DELIVERY

MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE SUMMER 2018



Welcome to the quarterly newsletter for Meals On Wheels Delaware.

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OUR MISSION

Meals on Wheels Delaware is dedicated to raising funds in the effort of ending senior hunger across Delaware. In 2017, 706,000 meals were delivered to 4,360 individuals across the state, as we continue to expand our reach every year. These individuals often have a fixed income, or are unable to shop or safely prepare food for themselves. The daily meals delivered to these seniors allow them to eat healthier, feel safe and secure, and help them to feel comfortable remaining in their own homes. The meals delivered by volunteers help to combat the three biggest threats of aging to seniors: hunger, isolation and loss of independence.



TOGETHER WE MADE THE CASE FOR SENIOR MEALS

You may have heard some of the discussion around funding levels for the Meals On Wheels program ahead of the Delaware's State Budget decisions in June.

Those who are the face, hands, and hearts of the Meals On Wheels programs were extremely concerned. They were aware that the funds available from the State, when combined with the consistent support from Meals On Wheels Delaware, would be insufficient to meet the need for home delivered meals.

To address this potential shortfall the Meals On Wheels programs, together with Meals On Wheels Delaware, coordinated to highlight the issue. Together we engaged effected seniors, their families and supporters in the community to respond. They shared their own experiences of how much a warm meal and the daily connection mean.

Our legislators took note.

We sincerely thank all those who came together, donating their time, energy and voice to this grassroots effort. With your help the message was heard and clearly understood. We are grateful to our legislator to understanding that a meal is a foundation for health and wellbeing and for committing funding at the levels needed for 2019.

*Together, we can **END** senior hunger.*

GUEST BARTENDING EVENTS

YOU CAN PARTICIPATE!

All across the state your favorite locals are serving as "Bartenders." Come support your friends as they serve up drinks, all tips benefiting our mission and cause. Come along to our last happy hour of 2018 and raise a glass!

The Starboard, Dewey Beach

September 20
5:30pm-7:00 pm



You can join an established Happy Hour
or contact us to arrange your own!

SPRING EVENT RECAP

WHAT YOU MISSED



We've been busy! Thanks to the support of donors, volunteers, and our valued guests, we've had many successful events this

spring! From the Cellar Masters' Wine Auction to the

Celebrity Chef's

brunch, we have been

having fun and

making a difference in

the lives of

homebound seniors

across Delaware. In

June, we participated

in the Highmark Walk

for a Healthy

Community at Blue

Rocks Stadium. The walk was a huge success this year,

as Highmark broke

an all-time record for

funds raised, and

Wilmington broke its

individual event

record for the second

year in a row! We

appreciate your

continued support,

as these events

ensure we are able to

deliver hot, nutritious

meals to all seniors in need throughout Delaware.



COMING UP...

SEPTEMBER 8 6:00-9:00PM

Sip & Savor

Dover Downs Hotel & Casino

Come join us for interactive chef stations, craft beer tastings, wine & spirits, live music and silent & live auctions! For our fifth year, we are celebrating Mardi Gras style!

OCTOBER 7 11:00 AM-1:30PM

Celebrity Chef's Beach Brunch

The Rusty Rudder, Dewey Beach

Spend a wonderful afternoon at the beach with tastings by top chefs, craft beer, wine & brunch cocktails!

OCTOBER 18 6:00-9:00PM

Ultimate Tailgate

Delaware Park

We may disagree on what team to root for, but we can all come together to enjoy this tailgate! Featuring tastings by local favorites, craft beer, wine, games & other entertainment, this is a party you won't want to miss.

OCTOBER 25 5:30-9:00PM

Stock Up for Seniors

Emile Henry Warehouse, New Castle

Gain first access to the Emile Henry Warehouse sale. Open only once a year, this is the best time to stock up on kitchenware essentials by premium brands at up to 80% off retail pricing!

NOVEMBER 9 6:00-9:00PM

Ultimate Wine Experience

Brantwyn Estate, Wilmington

Come join us at this beautiful venue for delicious food, and a tasting of over 100 wines from around the world, provided by the Wine and Spirit Company of Greenville.

Tickets and more information at
mealsonwheelsde.org

OUR 2018 MARQUEE SPONSORS





Making a Difference

Thank you to Incyte for recognizing the importance of the Meals On Wheels Program and providing funds to allow each county in Delaware to safely deliver both hot meals and cold dishes to those unable to prepare a nutritious meal for themselves.

The total items replaced as a result of Incyte's support of the program was 110 thermal meal delivery bags, 15 coolers and 2 substantial warmers.

All meal delivery programs require to replace supplies regularly due to heavy daily use. Coolers and thermal bags are loaded with approximately a dozen meals and drinks, carried or rolled across parking lots and lifted in and out of cars. They are opened and closed at each of the stops on a route. Rising client numbers result in more routes and more supplies are needed.



In 2017 the meal delivery programs delivered 706,000 meals to 4,360 individual homebound seniors. The number of seniors who requested help from the program increased 8% from 2016 to 2017.

City Fare in New Castle County replaced 30 Meal Carriers. They use a mix of sizes for different types of routes: a regular size for city apartment blocks, and a large size for more suburban areas.

Erica Porter Brown, Project Director, City Fare Meals on Wheels

"When people think of Meals on Wheels, a meal and a temporary escape from loneliness for a senior still living at home may come to mind. Vitally important to creating the reality of seniors remaining in their homes is the equipment to get the meals delivered. And when those meals are hot, they are not only satisfying to the recipients, but also meet food safety standards. We simply couldn't do what we do without the necessary equipment. City Fare serves over 1,500 people each day on about 70 delivery routes."



Meals On Wheels Lewes-Rehoboth in Sussex County replaced 33 jumbo meal bags which included frames and liners – they chose red for their delivery bags. Pictured above on the right hand side is 9 year volunteer Dwight Shema at morning pick up with their brand new bags. Kathy Keuski, Executive Director Meals On Wheels Lewes-Rehoboth



"The impact is significant to the clients we serve. The heated delivery bags ensure that hot meals stay at optimal temperatures providing our recipients with safe nutritious meals each day."

The Modern Maturity Center in Kent County replaced 47 Delivery Bags with hot and cold packs included. The hot packs are used to maintain safe food temperatures during transportation. They also added 15 coolers to meet increased client numbers. Milk, juice and salad items are kept cold for the senior's health and enjoyment.

Jaime Sherman, Nutrition Program Coordinator,
Modern Maturity Center

"Meals on Wheels of Delaware and their grant supporters are a great help to the Modern Maturity Center and the homebound seniors of Kent County. Without their support, we would have difficulty keeping up with the changing meal counts."

Modern Maturity also added 2 thermal boxes which hold 20 meals and includes a plug in warmer to keep meals at food safe temperatures on the longest routes. Some volunteer delivery drivers commit 2 to 3 hours of their day to deliveries in Kent County.

