



SPECIAL DELIVERY

THE MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2020



HAPPY THANKSGIVING - THANKFUL FOR YOU

Thankful; However you say it, this year it has taken on a new meaning. We here at Meals on Wheels Delaware are thankful for many things.

We are thankful to the Meals On Wheels programs who never missed a beat. They never missed a senior meal, and were out delivering meals to over 4,400 seniors in Delaware.

We are thankful for the many volunteers who now know all about the "New Normal". The volunteers protected seniors and themselves while delivering with a minimum of a 10% increase in seniors requesting

meals. They wore facemasks, some used gloves and hand sanitizer, and called ahead to seniors. They were even asked to deliver groceries and some delivered medications from the pharmacy during the week days.

We are thankful to our many event sponsors and guests who had to pivot as we did from full scale in-person events, to virtual events. They understood what we are trying to accomplish; raise funds to keep the meals coming and keep everyone safe, we are very thankful

for them!

Last but not least we are thankful to you, our supporters! With your continued support, we can help ensure that all seniors continue to receive a meal, the kitchens which prepare the meals have updated kitchen equipment and we are working together to end senior hunger.

WE ARE THANKFUL!



The Ultimate Tailgate Reimagined

The Ultimate Tailgate fundraiser presented by WSFS Bank took place on October 22, 2020 at several restaurants in New Castle County. This year, due to the pandemic, Meals On Wheels Delaware changed the format of the large in-person event so that guests could celebrate in a new way. Meals On Wheels Delaware partnered with local restaurants to create prix fixe menus for guests' choice of dine-in or take out. The Ultimate Tailgate sent about 200 guests and sponsors out to the variety of New Castle County restaurants.

The pandemic impacted the restaurant industry in a big way and we saw this as an opportunity to give back to the businesses who have supported us for years. The proceeds from the ticket sales were allocated to the restaurants to cover their costs. Our objective was to send guests to the local restaurants in order to give them exposure from both new and old customers in order to give back in their time of need.

The participating Ultimate Tailgate restaurants were Caffe Gelato, Ciro Food & Drink, Deer Park Tavern, Grotto Pizza, Klondike Kate's, Metro Pub & Grill, Tonic Seafood & Steak, and Two Stones Pub.

BlackRock Grant 2020 - \$30,000



Thank you BlackRock for your commitment to the seniors of Delaware. This organization is placing their donations where it has the biggest impact, with one segment in supporting people impacted by this global crisis. This grant will support the seniors of Delaware who are some of the most financially vulnerable members of our community and among the hardest affected both today and into the future!

This grant will help to sustain and expand services to seniors requesting a home delivered meals. During the pandemic, the 5 Meals On Wheels programs are experiencing an increase in demand, and working with the emergency transitions into the new stable or "New Normal". Seniors who once received congregate meals in their respective senior centers, are now

receiving home delivery which again is increasing demand. Staff and volunteers continue to change based on recommendations of the State and CDC. Masks, gloves and hand sanitizers are the normal along with plastic bags and social distancing. All of these items are needed to keep our seniors safe. With this grant, the Meals on Wheels programs will continue to do great work, and plan for the future needs, to meet the increased needs to keep both volunteers and Delaware seniors safe. Part of this grant funding has enabled the purchase of commercial kitchen equipment, needed to meet the current and projected needs of the growing numbers of seniors served in Sussex County. Working together with BlackRock we will together help end senior hunger!

**Together we can
end senior hunger.**






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MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE

100 W. 10th Street, Suite 207, Wilmington, DE 19801

MealsOnWheelsDE.org