



# SPECIAL DELIVERY

THE MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2021



## WELCOME TO 2021

We hope this newsletter finds you safe and well. Last year was something that no one could have planned or predicted. The increase in demand for meals for seniors and number trends in 2020 show how Meals on Wheels Programs had to adjust.

Senior Centers were closed for most of 2020 because of the pandemic, which forced seniors to stay home including those who ate meals at the centers. The number of seniors who used Meals on Wheels programs increased by 40% from 2019. Previously about 4,400 seniors were served and now over 6,200 seniors are using meal delivery programs in Delaware. In 2020, the Meals on Wheels programs prepared over 877,000 meals, a 26% increase from meals served in 2019.

We are most grateful to the many individuals who continue to volunteer and deliver meals every week day. We thank the many corporate company employees who continue to deliver meals, and we also thank you for your continued support for the seniors of our state. It is also due to the outstanding and positive response to our Annual Appeal, that we are also so grateful.

As the new year continues to evolve, the seniors will remain our focus. We understand the challenges that many seniors face, but with daily checks from the volunteers and a warm meal delivery, we hope to brighten their day.

**Together we can end senior hunger.**

THE NUMBER OF SENIORS RECEIVING  
MEALS ON WHEELS  
INCREASED BY **40%** FROM 2019 TO 2020

OVER  
4,400  
SENIORS  
IN 2019

OVER  
6,200  
SENIORS  
IN 2020

THE NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED BY  
MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAMS  
INCREASED BY **26%**

694,393  
MEALS  
IN 2019

877,682  
MEALS  
IN 2020

*Seniors receive meals as requested or  
needed, which may not be every day*

# Support Provided for Meal Programs to Meet Increase in Demand

## PROGRAM SUPPORT

- Funded meals not funded by the state and medical meals supplement for seniors who need extra nutritional support
- Purchased meal delivery items such as coolers, hot cabinets for vans to keep food hot, freezer packs and custom fit a delivery van for satellite locations, delivery containers, magnetic signs to identify delivery of meals for cars
- Replacement of Kitchen equipment such as a large walk in freezer, regular size freezer, commercial oven and commercial kitchen equipment
- Upgraded computer for efficient tracking of meals, volunteer scheduling and outreach
- Contribution to Volunteer events and contributed to reimbursement for volunteer mileage
- 500 \$10 WaWa gift cards as a thank you to delivery Volunteers
- Created videos and materials distributed the meal programs to help with volunteer recruitment and continued funding support

## SAVE THE DATE

THE WEEK OF  
**APRIL 18 - 25, 2021**

Celebrity Chefs will partner with leading New Castle County restaurants.

- Dine-in or Take-out •
- Featuring a Virtual Program & Auction •

**MORE DETAILS TO COME**

[MealsOnWheelsDE.org](https://MealsOnWheelsDE.org)

## GET INVOLVED WITH MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE

**Vist:** [MealsOnWheelsDE.org](https://MealsOnWheelsDE.org)

**Call:** 302-656-3257

**Social:**  [Meals On Wheels Delaware](https://www.facebook.com/MealsOnWheelsDelaware)  [MealsOnWheelsDE](https://www.instagram.com/MealsOnWheelsDE)  [MealsOnWheelsDE](https://twitter.com/MealsOnWheelsDE)



**MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE**

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

[MealsOnWheelsDE.org](https://MealsOnWheelsDE.org)