



SPECIAL DELIVERY

THE MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2024



DO MORE 24 - 24 HOURS OF GIVING

In Delaware, there is an event called Do More 24. It is 24 hours from March 7 starting at 6 p.m. until March 8 at 6 p.m. of community awareness for Delaware Not for Profits. It is our day to ask outside our base of constituents which donate to us regularly, to assist us to help seniors! Your onetime donation means a lot to our seniors, as last year there were over 6000 seniors who received a mid day meal, which translated into over 899,000 meals prepared, and delivered. We help support five local Meals On Wheels programs to make sure they have enough funds to keep the wheels under the meals. Donate today, or learn how to volunteer to deliver meals in your local community at <https://mealsonwheelsde.org/volunteer/volunteer-drivers/>



We would like to reward donors with the additionally opportunity of attending one or even two of our 2024 events! During the 24 hours of Do More 24, anyone who donates will be issued entries based on the donation level into our drawing!!

Here are the rules to receive your entries:

1. Only donations made during March 7 starting at 6 p.m. and ending March 8 at 6 p.m. are eligible.
2. Donations made either on our DoMore 24 donation page or made on the Meals on Wheels Delaware website are eligible.
3. Unless stated the tickets are for general admission.
4. Drawing will be held live on facebook on Monday March 11th at 3 p.m.
5. Only 1 winner will be drawn from all entries received.
6. Celebrity Chefs' Brunch is Sunday, April 21st at DuPont Country Club.
7. Brackets for # of entries are listed below:

\$1.00 to \$49.00 – 1 entry for 2 General Admission tickets to The Celebrity Chefs' Brunch at DuPont Country Club, Wilmington

\$50.00 to \$99.00 – 4 entries for 2 General Admission tickets to Celebrity Chefs' Brunch

\$100.00 to \$499.00 – 8 entries for 2 VIP tickets to Celebrity Chefs' Brunch

\$500 and above – 15 entries for 2 VIP tickets to The Celebrity Chefs' Brunch and 2 tickets to your choice of our Fall events, which are Hats & Heels in Dover, Beach Brunch in Rehoboth Beach, or Ultimate Tailgate in Wilmington.

Donations that keep on giving and giving and giving! Good Luck!!!

MEET BOARD MEMBER DAN DUGAN



My respect for the Meals on Wheels mission goes back 30+years. I was an only child living 1400 miles from a widowed parent who had lost his ability to reliably prepare nutritious meals on a regular basis. The local Meals on Wheels organization responded immediately to his physician's referral and I credit their meal deliveries and social interactions with allowing my father to remain in his home and live independently for 2+ years. This experience triggered my interest in becoming involved in Meals on Wheels Delaware through event participation, meal delivery, and board service.



MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE

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

MealsOnWheelsDE.org

THANK YOU CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE

Corteva Agriscience is a valued partner in senior wellbeing in Delaware.

In 2023 they provided \$10,000 in grant funding for meal service to homebound seniors across Delaware.

More than 6,000 seniors rely on a freshly prepared meal, delivered by a caring volunteer. These volunteers often become a trusted friendly face at the door, improving not only the physical health but also the emotional well-being of neighbors they come to know well. The men and women who receive meals, many of them 75 and older, are unable to shop or prepare a balanced meal daily.

Thanks to this grant, support was provided for every essential step of a meals journey from raw ingredients to meals arriving on a seniors table.

Food safety and quality is an essential part of a nutritious meal, and a new refrigerator was a priority for the meal program at Laurel Senior Center, provided by CHEER. This refrigerator stores meal ingredients and sides for the nutrition program with homebound meal delivery and low-cost congregate meals.

Each home delivered meal is freshly prepared beginning in the early hours of the morning to be able to have every lunch ready to be delivered on time. The Modern Maturity Center prepares, packages and organizes more than 1,500 individual meals for home delivery each weekday for Kent County seniors. Part the grant funding allowed for the upgrade of the extraction system required to support a larger, more powerful, more efficient oven in their kitchen. The oven shortens cooking time as less batches are required and allows the early shift to have a little extra time in bed.

Once the meals are prepared and individually packaged, they are combined together into a delivery route. Each route holds several hot meals which one driver will deliver to "their" seniors. Twelve large soft sided insulated delivery bags at Modern Maturity Center were replaced due to wear and tear from everyday use. These insulated bags must keep the meals hot, since the meals are usually in the delivery bags for an hour to allow all homes to be reached. These insulated bags are another important part of helping to keep food warm until ready to be eaten.

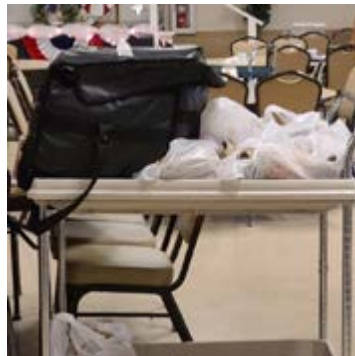
Once the delivery driver reaches one of the homes on their route each meal and side dishes are individually handed to the waiting senior. Funding supported 3,455 meals for seniors in New Castle County.

Caitlin Custer-Hufe, Corporate & Community Investments Program Manager, Corteva Agriscience, knows how important this service is to seniors, as she also delivers meals during her lunch hour!

"Food insecurity is a real issue for people around the world, including right here in our local community. Corteva is a proud supporter of Meals On Wheels, which not only provides healthy, nutritious meals to our neighbors in need, but also a friendly face and a caring heart," said Custer-Hufe. "I'm honored to serve both as a board member of Meals On Wheels Delaware, and to participate in a monthly meal delivery route at Newark Senior Center."



Ovenhood at Modern Maturity Center



Delivery Bags packed with meals at the Modern Maturity Center



Meals from Newark Senior Center

VISIT: [MealsOnWheelsDE.org](https://www.MealsOnWheelsDE.org) CALL: 302-656-3257 SOCIAL:  Meals On Wheels Delaware   MealsOnWheelsDE

Together we can end senior hunger.