

Our Mission

Beloit Meals On Wheels, Inc. provides daily nutritious meals and information to promote dignity and independence for the homebound elderly, ill and disabled.

Our Volunteers

Our volunteers touch the lives of our local, homebound seniors through their time and service. By delivering nutritious meals with a warm smile, they help seniors feel connected with a daily visit, seven days a week, 365 days a year, including holidays. We are the only agency in the area providing this service.



Volunteers use their own vehicles to deliver meals, for which a valid driver's license is required.



Commitment is about one hour a week, once a month.



There is full training before you hit the road, which includes a ride-along. Learn more today!

Federal Funding Cuts Proposed

Recently, you may have heard the news that a budget blueprint was sent to Congress which focuses on investing in defense programs, paid for through deep cuts to non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs. The NDD portion of the federal budget funds programs from everything to public education and transportation to the Older Americans Act (OAA). Beloit Meals on Wheels receives \$37,000 a year from the Older Americans Act, which makes up almost 10% of our total budget. If this federal funding is reduced or eliminated, it would be very impactful by affecting 10 seniors every day.

As you know, the senior population in the U.S. is growing exponentially, while federal funding has not kept pace. If you care about our program, be an advocate, speak out for seniors, and tell our members of Congress to protect and strengthen funding for Meals on Wheels programs!

Sign our petition to protect Meals on Wheels at:

<http://www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org/take-action/advocate/sign-our-petition-to-protect-meals-on-wheels>

Speak out for seniors at: <http://www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org/take-action/advocate/call-congress-protect-funding>



Beloit Meals on Wheels delivers a daily hot nutritious meal and safety check to local seniors 60 and older.

THE SENIORS WE SERVE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE THE MOST CRITICAL NEEDS:



71% OF MOW CLIENTS REPORT FAIR OR POOR HEALTH COMPARED TO 26% FOR AVERAGE SENIORS.



NEARLY TWICE AS MANY SENIORS ON MOW WAITING LISTS SUFFER FROM DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY COMPARED TO AVERAGE SENIORS.



79% OF MOW CLIENTS CLAIM THEIR FEAR OF FALLING LIMITS THEIR ACTIVITIES COMPARED TO 43% FOR AVERAGE SENIORS.



87% OF MOW CLIENTS ARE PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO GROCERY SHOP COMPARED TO 23% FOR AVERAGE SENIORS.

SENIORS WHO RECEIVE OUR DAILY-DELIVERED MEALS EXPERIENCE GREATER IMPROVEMENTS IN HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE.

Our Goal

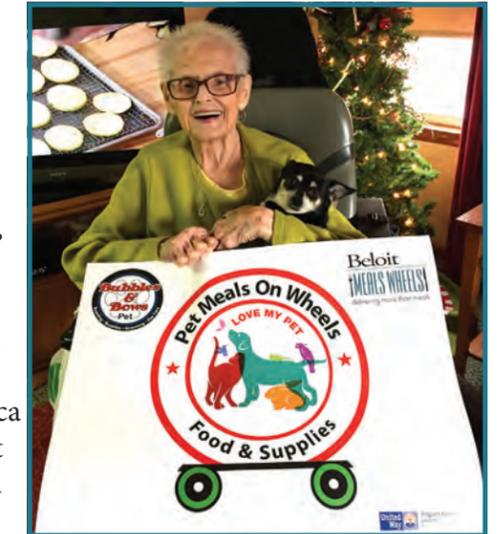
Our goal is quite simple – we deliver daily nutritious meals to our homebound Beloit neighbors so no senior goes hungry. We are keeping seniors in their homes where they want to be. But we provide more than just a meal – we provide that daily safety check so families can be assured that someone is checking in on their loved ones.

Beloit Meals on Wheels in Spanish

If you haven't heard, we now have our informational brochure in Spanish. We partnered with our neighbor next door, Family Services Beloit Home Companion Registry, and created a brochure highlighting both of our agencies. Copies are in our office, available on our website, and at the Latino Service Providers Coalition office located at 717 Hackett Street.

Pet Meals On Wheels

There is an undeniable bond between a senior and their pet. Research shows that seniors with pets are less likely to exhibit depression, report feelings of loneliness and experience illness. But taking care of a pet – feeding, grooming and veterinary care – can be financially and physically burdensome to seniors. Last year, we applied for a Loves Pet Grant through Meals on Wheels America and were granted \$2,500. Our Pet Meals On Wheels program rolled out in January, in the bitter cold, thanks in part to the volunteer



efforts of John and Joyce Fitzsimmons and Dan and Sharon Summers. We are grateful for this grant, and especially for our partnership with Bubbles & Bows, located in South Beloit and Janesville, who helped promote our Pet Meals On Wheels program, and conducted a pet food drive for us. 27% of our homebound clients own pets. This grant allowed us to help ease some of the burden of pet ownership by providing pet food, treats, grooming certificates, and certificates for our clients to purchase special dietary pet food for their furry companions.

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MEALS ON WHEELS™

March for Meals was a fun-filled month! It's an annual event to raise awareness of senior hunger, promote volunteerism, and raise money for Meals on Wheels. By raising funds and recruiting volunteers, Beloit Meals on Wheels can continue assisting seniors who

otherwise may not be able to stay in their own homes. During the month of March, 25 businesses held fundraising events; 100 businesses donated raffle items; and 25 businesses sold our Give-A-Buck cards. The results aren't in quite yet, but we have hopes to break last year record of \$40,000!

Volunteer Spotlight

Our volunteers are extraordinary and passionate, and they always find a way to spread the word. They are the original energy drink – you feel amped when collaborating with these folks. When the different volunteers get together it is magical – friendships form, fun is present and it feels like family. Here are just a few volunteers we would like to highlight:



Sandie Storley

Sandie has been a volunteer for the last five years. She approached me in 2016 wanting to be more involved with selling our Give-A-Buck promotion cards during our March for Meals campaign. She created a list of local bars and went out to see if they would be willing to sell our Give-A-Buck cards – she never hesitated to ask them (or twist their arm a bit) if they would like to donate gift cards or hold an event for us. After contacting more than 25 local establishments, her efforts helped raise over \$1,700. This year, for March for Meals, she helped organize new events at the Alibi Bar and Grill; the Grand Slam Pool Tournament; Diamond Lanes; and the Filling Station. All of these events raised a combined total of almost \$2,700. Thank you for your high energy, time and dedication – you're a blast to work with!



Laura Tucciarone and Terry Taylor

Laura and Terry are brand new volunteers and best of friends. When Laura found out that she would have some time off from work, she went on the web and found out about our volunteering opportunity! Laura and Terry say that delivering meals is heartwarming since seniors are so inspiring – and they booked almost 40 hours together in just the last two months! Even though Laura will be heading back to work, they will still stay connected and be on our on-call list when a volunteer is unable to deliver meals. Thanks, ladies, for joining our special delivery team!

Magnetic Signs

Thanks to a generous donation from volunteers Don and Donna Kelley, we now have magnetic car signs for our drivers to use. These signs are enabling us to transform our volunteer's vehicles into a rolling advertisement, and will provide some peace of mind to our clients knowing the vehicle that just pulled in their driveway is a trusted one. Keep your eyes open for these smart car magnets on the road!

Pictured are volunteers Erik Rozolis and Shatonya Evers from ABC Supply Co. inc.



Did You Know?

Did you Know?

We have a bulletin board in our meal delivery area that highlights some facts about our program. It's a way to provide a refresher for those volunteers who deliver intermittently, plus it allows us to share a consistent message about what Beloit Meals on Wheels is all about. The next time you deliver, look and you may even learn something. Here are some samples:

Who is eligible to receive meals?

We serve seniors living in the Greater Beloit area (City and Town of Beloit, Town of Turtle and Town of Newark) who are 60 years and older, homebound and not driving.

How are we supported?

Just because we are a nonprofit does not mean our service is free. We receive minimal federal funding through the Older American's Act, along with some county funds for clients qualifying for Family Care. We also are supported by United Way Blackhawk Region, grants, memorials, community support and client meal contributions.

Who prepares the meals?

Since 2012, our meals have been prepared by Best Event Catering in Janesville. Best Events also prepares congregate meals for all of Rock and Walworth counties.

What consists of the volunteer training?

When volunteers join our special delivery team, they meet with our volunteer coordinator to review our meal delivery procedures, watch a training video, and then we partner them up with a seasoned volunteer to shadow until they feel comfortable delivering meals on their own or with another volunteer.

Sometimes the routes are long?

Since we serve seniors living in the City and Town of Beloit, Town of Turtle and Town of Newark, routes may sometimes be long. Some homes have well-manicured driveways, while others have gravel driveways. We don't judge living conditions, while we always strive to keep our volunteers informed about who they are delivering to and what to expect.

Beloit, Let's Do Lunch!

Our national organization, Meals on Wheels America, was selected by the Ad Council to embark on a first-of-its-kind national awareness campaign designed to inspire and recruit a new pipeline of volunteers for the nationwide network of Meals on Wheels programs. There has never been a more critical a time for such an important effort. Beloit Meals on Wheels has put a local spin on this campaign calling it "Beloit, Let's Do Lunch" which encourages individuals to pop by, drop off a nutritious meal and say a quick hello to a few seniors in need!



We Treasure Our Volunteers

The Beloit Meals On Wheels, Inc. Board of Directors would like to extend a cordial invitation to recognize your efforts at a

Volunteer Recognition Open House

Thursday, April 27th, from 11:30 – 1:30pm

The Eclipse Center
3 Eclipse Blvd, Beloit, WI 53511

Please RSVP by April 14th
at 608.362.3683 or by
email at info@beloitmealsonwheels.org

A deliciously unique luncheon experience will be brought to you by the staff of Best Events.

