



2026 July Newsletter

OUR MISSION: NO HOMEBOUND PERSON GOES HUNGRY

We provide two nutritious meals Monday through Friday, in Montgomery, Chester, and Delaware Counties. Our volunteers not only deliver, but visit with each patron.

KEY CHALLENGES SENIORS ARE FACING TODAY:

1. Hunger & Malnutrition
2. Loneliness & Isolation
3. Chronic Health Issues
4. Growing numbers
5. Urgency for a Solution

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Check us out on



HELLO AND WELCOME!

Our mission in part, as you know, is to deliver nutritious meals and provide social contact for homebound individuals. I think we do a great job of that, but we also need to focus on the future. How do we expand our patron base? Where are the opportunities for donor growth? How do we sustain our strong army of volunteers? These are just a few of the questions we need to be asking ourselves.

To do just that, we have developed a Strategic Plan for Main Line Meals on Wheels, that will hopefully support our efforts over the next three years. Currently, Alejandro Monteagudo (Board Member) is leading a team dealing with the Patron Growth Outreach Strategy, while Robin Clark (Board Member) heads the Marketing Outreach Strategy team. These are just two of the many action items in our Strategic Plan. If you have any interest in helping with our planning process, please let your coordinator know.

Thanks for all that you do, we clearly cannot do it without you.

~David Price, President - Board of Directors

SHOUT-OUT FOR PHILANTHROPY

In early April 2026, Meals on Wheels America announced an unrestricted gift of \$70 million from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott, marking one of the largest private donations in the organization's history. This donation is intended to enhance the capacity of the nationwide network of over 5,000 local providers, enabling them to serve more seniors efficiently and sustainably. The funding addresses critical challenges such as infrastructure gaps, operational barriers, and growing demand for meals and social connection among older adults.

The MoW America board approved \$10 million in gift distributions and grants to qualifying members; \$6 million of which will be distributed as \$10,000 gifts offered to approximately 600 qualifying members. ML MoW was identified as a recipient and 100% of these monies will be dedicated to our Subsidy Program.

RECENT EVENTS

Summer is well underway! The Surrey offices were closed on Memorial Day, the unofficial start of the season, so ML MoW delivered extra meals the Friday prior. Surrey was also closed on the 3rd of July for our Nation's 250th birthday, but our meals were prepared ahead of time, so we were still able to deliver. Thanks to our wonderful volunteers, we were able to see each patron and visit for these two very special holidays. Well done! (cont.)

We dropped off new donor Thank You gifts and staffed some community events such as Representative Mary Jo Daley's Senior Fair on May 29th and the Berwyn Farmer's Market on May 31st. We also hosted our annual Volunteer Luncheon on May 12th. If you attended, we hope you had fun visiting with your fellow volunteers and enjoyed the tap dancing tutorial and performance and the raffle giveaways! If you weren't able to make it, we hope you'll join us next time.

NEW EVENTS – COME VISIT OUR BOOTH

- Aug 4: National Night Out (Suburban Square)
- Aug 9: Ardmore Rock 'n Ride
- Aug 13: National Night Out (Trinity House)

PATRON SPOTLIGHT

We've highlighted our chefs and volunteers in previous Newsletters, so in this edition we thought you'd like to get to know two of our patrons a bit better. Read on!

Jane Fleming (Devon)

At 96, Jane continues to live independently in the home she once shared with her husband, Robert. The two built a rich life together, although they never had children, their life was full. Since Robert's passing several years ago, Jane has remained determined to stay in the home she loves.

With the support of her aide, Nancy, and occasional help from a nearby nephew, Jane manages her daily routine. Still, Meals on Wheels plays a vital role in making that independence possible.

Five days a week, Jane receives not only a nutritious meal, but also a meaningful moment of connection. Using her walker, she makes her way to the door each day—eager to greet the volunteer delivering her meal. While her mobility has declined, her sharp mind and engaging conversation reflect a spirit far younger than her years.

Jane is deeply grateful for every visit and every meal, especially the soups she finds both comforting and easy to enjoy. For Jane, Meals on Wheels is more than a meal delivery service—it is nourishment, companionship, and the support she needs to remain safely and happily at home.

Julio Anzoategui (Bryn Mawr)

Julio has been a patron of Main Line Meals on Wheels for the last four years. He was born into a family of 11 siblings on July 16, 1923 in Ecuador where he completed 12 years of formal education and 3 years of college. He then joined the armed forces and served as a radio operator in the Navy; he contracted and nearly died from Typhoid Fever! Equipped with his naval experience he joined the merchant marines, which led to a career of extensive travel around the world for 16 years leading him to gain fluency in 5 additional languages beyond his native tongue, Spanish.

Julio believes that communication with others in their home language helped him to better understand the culture of the places in which he worked. He eventually settled in the United States to begin a marriage of 64 years with his bride who hailed from Puerto Rico. Julio is predeceased by his wife, two of his three children, both of his grandchildren and ten of his siblings (he has a 94 year old younger sister who still resides in Ecuador!).

He is grateful for his daughter who lives locally and visits him in his apartment nearly daily. He enjoys the food he receives from ML MoW, believing that "God is looking after him" and that it is "a blessing to be visited." Julio loves to share his memories of all of his 103 years of life and offers the following advice, "Try to accomplish what you think needs to be done. Concentrate. Be honest. Try to be helpful. Respect others."

JUST THE FACTS – OUR MID-YEAR NUMBERS

- 31,916 meals distributed
- 18,574 meals subsidized (58%)
- 209 patrons, comprised of 53 new and 156 continuing (approx. 150 at any given time)
- Nearly 50% of new patrons are referred to us by other agencies or social workers
- 13 new volunteers have joined ML MoW

SEND US YOUR IDEAS

Do you volunteer for another organization in our area? What works for them, what doesn't, do they have patrons who could use our services, what do we do well that we can share with them? We'd be glad to open a dialogue with that organization to swap experiences and share helpful tips.

HELPFUL LINKS

[Main Line Meals on Wheels](https://www.MainLineMealsOnWheels.org/)

<https://www.MainLineMealsOnWheels.org/>

[Surrey Services for Seniors](http://www.SurreyServices.org/)

<http://www.SurreyServices.org/>

[Wayne Senior Center](http://www.WayneSeniorCenter.com/)

<http://www.WayneSeniorCenter.com/>

[Center for Positive Aging in Lower Merion \(PALM\)](http://www.PALMseniors.org/)

<http://www.PALMseniors.org/>

[New Horizons Senior Center](http://www.NewHorizonsSeniorCenter.org/)

<http://www.NewHorizonsSeniorCenter.org/>

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

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