









**2024 ANNUAL REPORT** 

Half a Century of Service!
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Dear Friends,

As always, we are eager to share the accomplishments of the past year. This year, we are particularly proud as we celebrate 50 years of serving Rockland County Seniors! Our Founder, Shelly Berger, along with the support of The National Council of Jewish Women, recognized that many older adults in our community needed home delivered meals and a friendly check-in. What started in Shelly's home, in her kitchen, utilizing her counter and her breadbox (see picture on left) has grown to over 11 million meals served. In year one, there were 60 volunteers and today we have almost 700. Additionally, with the partnership and backing of Rockland County Office For The Aging, we operate five Senior Activity Centers. The centers are vital hubs for over 460 older adults enjoying food, friends and fun, five days a week.

Thank you to Shelly and everyone along the way, who got us to where we are today. Meals on Wheels empowers older adults who choose to age in place with independence and dignity. It begins with a meal and delivers so much more. The results include a reduction in loneliness, decreased food insecurity and fewer trips to the hospital. Older adults living with food insecurity are more likely to experience malnutrition, depression and physical limitations that affect how they live.

We are excited to get to make our impact on the next 50 years!

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Hardy, President & CEO

Together, We Can Deliver!



# HOME DELIVERED MEALS



It all started with Home Delivered Meals and today, over 11 million meals later, this service is still at the core of all we do for Rockland seniors. We couldn't be prouder of the detail and care that goes into every meal to insure they are nutritious and medically tailored for the vast and varied community of older adults who have very specific needs. Catering to these needs, helps ensure their continued well-being and their ability to continue to live in the home they love.

9,800 meals

December 1975













# HOME DELIVERED MEALS



#### THE HOME DELIVERED MEAL'S JOURNEY

4:00am Chef Pierre and the Commissary team start making meals using the freshest ingredients and a wide variety of meal types (Renal, Gluten Free, Glatt Kosher, Kosher Style, Vegetarian, Lactose Free, Mechanically Tailored: cut and pureed). We also offer Hot, Cold and Frozen.



If all is good (and maybe a new friend is made that day), the journey for the next meal continues as the Volunteer goes on to the next stop on the route.

10:30am Volunteer picks up meals and begins to deliver their route, one of 65 routes delivered a day.



Volunteer arrives!



If there is an issue or if no one is home, the Volunteer calls the office for next steps. If there is a change of condition with the meal recipient, the Volunteer reports it. Our Caseworkers step in to help the client and provide referrals to a wide variety of services and support.

Recipient receives:

- Nourishment
- ♥ A Friendly Visit
- A Safety Check

IT STARTS WITH A MEAL BUT DELIVERS SO MUCH MORE!

Additional programs for Home Delivered Meals recipients include:

Emergency Pantry Boxes • Birthday Boxes • Box of Sunshine
Nutritional Counseling • Miles of Smiles • Caring Cards & Crafts • Pet Pal Pantry
Telephone Reassurance -5-

# MENDING MEALS





Thank you for being there while I was recovering from my surgery. The meals were very helpful.

-Mending Meals Recipient



# REDUCING RE-HOSPITALIZATIONS SINCE 2019

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF POST-HOSPITALIZATION HOME DELIVERED MEALS



It's been demonstrated time and time again that post hospitalization meals and follow-up support reduce rehospitalizations.

Meals on Wheels Rockland first partnered with Montefiore Hudson Valley to investigate the effects of Home Delivered Meals to help decrease hospitalizations.

- 62 Participants / 7,603 meals delivered
- 83 Change of Conditions reported by volunteer and addressed by caseworker
- 218 Friendly visits
- No re-hospitalizations (30 day 70%, 90 day 100%)

This is just one of many studies that validate the role that home delivered meals programs play in that critical time when a Senior is released from a hospital or rehab facility. Seniors, particularly, face many challenges on the road to a full recovery. A program that assures daily nutrition and check-ins can be a game-changer in terms of regaining independence. Those discharging patients are vital in helping make a connection between patients and post-discharge mending opportunities. We have additionally partnered with WellSky Foundation and Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.



#### PET PAL PANTRY





Many of our Home Delivered Meals Recipients and Senior Center participants are also pet owners for whom pet food can be a financial burden or challenging to get for the homebound. Yet, it is often their pets who are essential in their lives and keep them vibrant and motivated to stay healthy.

In 2013, our Pet Pal Pantry was established and has been helping feed Rockland Seniors furry friends ever since.



For seniors who are feeling isolated, a pet can be transformational, offering connection and purpose.

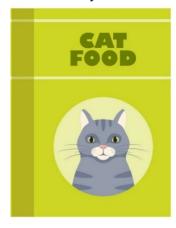
-Dr. Lisa Gibbs. UCI Health Geriatrician

#### POUNDS OF PET FOOD DELIVERED IN 2024

#### over 1,000 lbs



#### over 1,400 lbs



#### BENEFITS OF PETS FOR OLDER ADULTS

- Report feeling more socially connected
- Can positively affect physical health: lower blood pressure, improve heart health, reduce stress and enhance physical functioning
- Often motivates older adults to take better care of themselves
- Reduces depression, greater self-efficacy, cheerfulness and enhances mood

Source: Mather Institute's five-year Age Well Study.

I am so very happy because I am able to stay in my home because of Meals on Wheels and all the pleasant people who deliver to me. I really appreciate all of you, especially being so thoughtful by sending food for my cat!

-Home Delivered Meals & Pet Pal Pantry Recipient





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Scan the QR code to see a video on how we help Daniel and his best friend



#### SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTERS









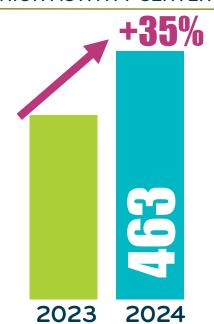




We have been operating Rockland Senior Activity Centers since 1982. With all the activities and benefits of attending, our members say the #1 reason they go is socialization. Maybe that's why they are always having so much fun. It's amazing to see that new friends can be made at any age. Socializing offers numerous benefits for older adults, impacting their physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

It combats loneliness and isolation, improves cognitive function, and reduces the risk of chronic diseases. Social interaction also fosters a sense of belonging, enhances self-esteem, and provides a positive outlook on life. Our Senior Activity Centers would not be possible without Rockland County Office For The Aging.

SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER MEMBERS





SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTERS

Together, We Thrive!



Fitness & Health • Games • Entertainment • Arts & Crafts
Outings • Celebrations • Information Sessions • Nutritional Counseling
Daily Hot Nutritious Lunch • Social Work Resources

#### **SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTERS**





# TWO NEW CENTERS! ORANGETOWN & HAVERSTRAW

Our newest centers, Orangetown and Haverstraw, opened in 2024, bringing us to five centers that serve the county.





# **BOOTCAMP IS BACK!**



Senior Boot Camp, one of our Seniors favorite events, made its triumphant post-covid return in 2024. They participated in ten events, including cup stacking, duck memory game, soccer kicking, flickin' chicken and a good old fashioned shell game. Senior Boot Camp is a fun way for Senior Activity Center members to come together and stretch their bodies and minds. It encourages exercise and movement, while Seniors enjoy some friendly competition.





#### **NEW HORTICULTURAL PROGRAM**

Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners bring the gardens to us. The Master Gardeners work with participants to create nature-based hands-on activities that take place at our centers throughout the year. Each program is designed to fulfill participant goals while providing an enriching and engaging experience. A grant from CDBG made this program possible.



# **VOLUNTEERS**



**2024 VOLUNTEER STATS** 

691 AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

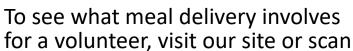
**+13%** from 2023



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I started volunteering, delivering meals as a way to keep busy over my summer break. I soon realized how fulfilling it is seeing the Seniors smile. That was over ten years ago and I'm still delivering every week and I love every minute of it!

-Volunteer



the QR code and watch our new training video

SCAN TO LEARN HOW TO DELIVER











WE

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're not because worthless, but because they're priceless."

-Sherry Anderson

**OUR VOLUNTEERS** 



# **VOLUNTEERS**





# 2024 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

**Abbott House** Ancient Order of Hibernians Pearl River **Another Step ARC** BNI, Phoenix **Boy Scouts** Church of God Nyack Clarkstown High School South **Girl Scouts** Hamaspik **Hudson Valley DPSO** Jawonio Lekulam **Living Resources** Living Word Christian Fellowship Lynn Academy of Irish Dance Nanuet Chamber of Commerce Nanuet High School

New Concepts for Living
North Rockland High School Key Club
NY Foundling
Professional Aging Network
Rockland County Government
Rockland County Office for the Aging
Rotary Club of Clarkstown
Rotary Club of Nanuet-West Nyack
Rotary Club of New City
Rotary Club of Nyack
Rotary Club of Pearl River
Rotary Club of Suffern
St. Dominic's
Tappan Zee High School
Town of Clarkstown

# 2024 CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS







Town of Stony Point

Venture Together

**Visions** 







**M&T**Bank



















### **DONORS**



We are grateful for every dollar or penny donated, as it all makes a difference. From corporate and larger private donations, to our monthly donors, to a kid running a lemonade stand on our behalf — it's the powerful combination of a broad and varied donor base that enables us to provide food and services to Rockland's Seniors.



We use annual appeals to increase awareness and donations. Every autumn, our fall appeal features a Senior served. This Senior allows us to share their Meals on Wheels Story. This year it was the wonderful Dottie!



Brings the joy of seeing a Rockland Neighbor!

Dottie knows and has truly experienced the Power of a Knock! Dottie and her husband Joseph, have been residents of Rockland since the 1960s. They both received Meals on Wheels since 2017. Sadly, her beloved husband passed last year. At 85, Dottie fits the profile of many of our meal recipients: in their 80's, widowed, lives alone and has a chronic ailment. For Dottie, it's diabetes. Meals on Wheels meals are diabetic friendly and enable her to maintain her health. Meals on Wheels has helped Dottie's health and overall wellness, "I have a lot of amazing people around me in my life now, the volunteers from Meals on Wheels".

One morning, this spring, Dottie fell in her kitchen. She was unable to get up from the hard fall on the tile floor and unable to get to the phone to call for help. Then she heard something that would make a difference. It was a knock on her door, followed by the announcement "Meals on Wheels!". It was her Monday Meals on Wheels Rockland Volunteer, Steve. Steve was able to get in the house, get to Dottie and call an ambulance. Steve is one of the many volunteers who not only helps Dottie receive a hot fresh meal but also a daily safety check and the social connection needed each day.

When someone moved into Dottie's neighborhood, to welcome them she would bake them a cheesecake, "I make a fantastic cheesecake", Dottie shares. Dottie exemplifies neighborliness, so it is only fitting that the lady who would knock on a new neighbor's door to welcome them, receives a daily knock that provides, nutrition, safety and a friendly smile, just like she did for her Rockland neighbors. Dottie would like you to know, "I'm grateful for Meals on Wheels".







- Catherine C. Reiley Charitable Foundation
- Eastwick College
- Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- Hagedorn Fund
- Hudson Gateway Realtor Foundation, Inc.
- Meals on Wheels America
- Mother Cabrini Health Foundation
- Northeast Community Bank
- Pfizer, Inc.
- Related Affordable Foundation, Inc.
- Rockland Community Foundation
- Rotary Club of New City
- Stony Point Wawayanda Guild, INC.
- Veolia North America
- Village of Haverstraw

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# **EVENTS**



January February March





- SUPER BOWL RAFFLE
- SENIOR BOOTCAMP\*
- MARCH FOR MEALS
  - COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

July August September



- SENIOR PICNIC
- COCKTAILS FOR CHARITY (NYACK ROTARY)
- ROCKLAND DUCK DERBY\*
- MOWA NATIONAL CONFERENCE
- SENATOR BILL WEBBER SENIOR

**FAIR** 



We look to have occasions throughout the year to engage our Seniors, Volunteers, Donors and the Community.

April May June



- VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION
- HOOK MOUNTAIN RACE
- ANNUAL GOLF OUTING\*
- SENIOR PROM
- ANNUAL BOARD MEETING



October
November
December



- JACKIE & ANDREW 5K
- CORNUCOPIA GALA\*
- SHARE A PIECE OF THE PIE
- BIG WHEELS DELIVER MEALS
- SUBARU SHARE THE LOVE
- SAC HOLIDAY PARTY



cornerstones to us getting the word out. In 2024, they reached new heights!

#### 2024 WEBSITE



#### 2024 SOCIAL

57.4K Reach
10.6K Visitors +34%



+147%

+20%

#### **2024 TRANSPORTATION SPONSORS**

- HSC Property Management
- M&T Bank
- New City Florist
- Nyack Ridge
- Rebecca Day, Realtor



SCAN TO SEE A TRANSPORTAION MAKEOVER



In 2024, we began making over our transportations fleet and we're getting noticed on the roads. This has helped increased awareness for our services as our buses, trucks and vans traverse Rockland County. This beautification would not be possible without our sponsors who are also getting seen.

**AWARENESS** 









#### **COMMUNITY PARTNER**



As we rely on our community for support, we in turn focus on other ways we can give back and join together with other community groups.





We are a proud partner in RCAH, a collaboration that focuses on food recover to support over 40 food pantries and meal programs in Rockland County.



In 2024, we were thrilled to join Good Samaritan Hospital, Rockland Community Foundation and Jawonio in The Rockland Duck Derby. This fun event brings the community together and raises awareness and funds for four great local causes.



# ALZHEIMER'S' ASSOCIATION

Hudson Valley Chapter

We support the work of the great people at Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter. We are pleased to host their caregiver support group meetings and committee meetings for their walk. Additionally, our caseworkers provide referrals.



We have a cherished partnership with Eisai and Cancer Care to provide services to people living with cancer and their Families. This includes meals that are integral to patient recovery, referrals from our caseworkers and the organizing of caring cards and crafts for meal recipients.

Kindness is a language the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

-Mark Twain

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# CONTRACT FOOD SERVICES



Contract Meals are imperative as we strive for self sustainability. And, as many of our contract meal clients are also charitable organizations in need of fair pricing and quality service, we are also helping our community to provide nutrition in congregate settings.





#### **ORGANIZATIONS SERVED**

- Developmentally Disabled
- Family Shelters
- Warming Centers
- Rehabilitation Facilities
- Home Delivered Meals for neighboring communities
- Community Centers
- Business Groups

#### **FOOD SERVICES PROVIDED**

- Fresh Meals
- Frozen Meals
- Boxed Lunches
- Buffets
- Meal Supplements
- Retail Meals





# FINANCIALS MEALS WHEELS ROCKLAND



#### MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF ROCKLAND, INC.

Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2023 and 2022

		2023		2022
ASSETS				
Cash	\$	340,246	\$	244,944
Cash - endowment		-		125,877
Restricted cash		11,783		9,387
Security and equipment deposits		3,953		20,000
Investments		1,099,144		1,365,563
Contracts receivable		390,002		363,390
Accounts receivable		139,844		161,599
Inventory		81,530		86,927
Prepaid expenses and other Total current assets	_	35,121	_	13,655 2,391,342
Total current assets		2,101,623		2,391,342
Right of use asset		52,792		4 272 200
Building and equipment (net of depreciation)	_	1,470,098	_	1,372,388
Total assets	\$	3,624,513	\$	3,763,730
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Accounts payable	\$	171,489	\$	182,018
Accrued expenses		99,643		98,674
Current portion of lease liability		10,880		-
Current portion of mortgage payable		114,185		109,256
Deferred revenue		235,169		100,000
Total current liabilities		631,366		489,948
Lease liability		41,912		-
Mortgage payable	_	91,396	_	204,277
		133,308		204,277
Total liabilities	_	764,674	_	694,225
Net Assets				
Without donor restrictions				
Operating fund		1,583,539		1,875,386
Net investment in building		963,885		800,408
Net investment in equipment		300,632		258,447
Board designated - endowment		_		125,877
-		2,848,056		3,060,118
With donor restrictions				
Senior centers	_	11,783	_	9,387
Total net assets		2,859,839		3,069,505
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	3,624,513	\$	3,763,730

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# FINANCIALS MEALS WHEELS



#### MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF ROCKLAND, INC.

Statement of Activities Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Without Donor Restrictions				
	Board		With Donor	2023	
	Undesignated	Designated	Total	Restrictions	Total
REVENUES					
Fees and grants - governmental agencies	\$ 1,759,197	\$ -	\$ 1,759,197	\$ -	\$ 1,759,197
Fees and grants - non governmental agencies	367,112	-	367,112	-	367,112
Program service fees	1,157,354	-	1,157,354	-	1,157,354
Contributions through United Way	22,671	-	22,671	-	22,671
Contributions received from participants	83,856	-	83,856	-	83,856
Special events revenue	285,488	-	285,488	-	285,488
Special events expense	(111,583)	-	(111,583)	-	(111,583)
Contributions - general	257,515	1,500	259,015	-	259,015
Contributions - senior centers	-	-	-	5,781	5,781
Contributions - in-kind	568,962	-	568,962	-	568,962
Other income	43,056	-	43,056	-	43,056
Interest income	(10)	10	-	-	-
Net assets released from restrictions	130,772	(127,387)	3,385	(3,385)	
Total revenues	4,564,390	(125,877)	4,438,513	2,396	4,440,909
EXPENSES					
Program services					
Senior centers	1,810,255	-	1,810,255	-	1,810,255
Homebound	2,048,226	-	2,048,226	-	2,048,226
Other programs	4,191	-	4,191	-	4,191
Total program expenses	3,862,672	-	3,862,672		3,862,672
General and administrative	716,439		716,439		716,439
Fundraising	207,054	-	207,054	-	207,054
Total expenses	4,786,165	-	4,786,165		4,786,165
Change in operating activities	(221,775)	(125,877)	(347,652)	2,396	(345,256)
NON OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Investment income(loss)	135,590	_	135,590		135,590
Total nonoperating activities	135,590	-	135,590	-	135,590
Change in net assets	(86,185)	(125,877)	(212,062)	2,396	(209,666)
Net assets, beginning	2,934,241	125,877	3,060,118	9,387	3,069,505
Net assets, ending	\$ 2,848,056	\$ -	\$ 2,848,056	\$ 11,783	\$ 2,859,839



#### MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF ROCKLAND, INC.

Statement of Activities Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Without Donor Restrictions							
			Board		With Donor		2022	
	U	ndesignated	De	esignated	Total	Res	strictions	Total
REVENUES								
Fees and grants from governmental agencies	\$	1,473,439	\$	-	\$ 1,473,439	\$	-	\$ 1,473,439
Fees and grants - non-governmental agencies		186,369		-	186,369		-	186,369
Program service fees		1,457,797		-	1,457,797		-	1,457,797
Contributions through United Way		38,122		-	38,122		-	38,122
Contributions received from participants		82,957		-	82,957		-	82,957
Special events revenue		217,276		-	217,276		-	217,276
Special events expense		(85,682)		-	(85,682)		-	(85,682)
Contributions - general		543,095		6,000	00 549,095		-	549,095
Contributions - senior centers		-		-	-		1,550	1,550
Contributions - in-kind		541,990		-	541,990		-	541,990
Other income		18,440		-	18,440		-	18,440
Interest income		-		61	61		-	61
Net assets released from restrictions		235	_	-	235		(235)	
Total revenues	_	4,474,038	_	6,061	4,480,099		1,315	4,481,414
EXPENSES								
Program services								
Senior centers		784,550		-	784,550		-	784,550
Homebound		2,905,458		-	2,905,458		-	2,905,458
Other programs		176,531		-	176,531		-	176,531
Total program expenses		3,866,539	=	-	3,866,539		-	3,866,539
General and administrative		491,430		-	491,430		_	491,430
Fundraising	_	117,157	_	_	117,157		-	117,157
Total expenses	_	4,475,126	_	-	4,475,126		-	4,475,126
Change in operating activities	_	(1,088)	_	6,061	4,973		1,315	6,288
NON OPERATING ACTIVITIES								
Investment Income		(189,075)		-	(189,075)		-	(189,075)
Realized gain on partial sale of building		341,342		_	341,342		_	341,342
Total nonoperating activities		152,267		-	152,267		-	152,267
Change in net assets		151,179		6,061	157,240		1,315	158,555
Net assets, beginning	_	2,783,062	_	119,816	2,902,878		8,072	2,910,950
Net assets, ending	\$	2,934,241	\$	125,877	\$ 3,060,118	\$	9,387	\$ 3,069,505

# **FALL 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



#### **OFFICERS**

- Kevin J. Hardy President & CEO
- Kevin Francis Chairperson
- Ralph Travaglini Vice Chairperson
- Rene Rodriquez Treasurer
- Cheryl Mallon Secretary

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Raja Amar
- Rob Burns
- Rebecca Day
- Howard Dean
- Barry Dorfman
- Lou Dretchen
- Brian Fontana
- Ray Francis
- Fern Gottlieb
- Michael Guarnieri
- Jessica Kiely
- Marie Lorenz
- Ryan O'Gorman
- Karen Paletta
- Steve Porath
- Dana Stilley
- Michelle Villani



# STAY IN TOUCH, LEARN MORE



121 West Nyack Road Nanuet, NY 10954



(845) 624-6325



info@mowrockland.org



www.mowrockland.org





Meals on Wheels Programs & Services of Rockland



@mowrockland



@mealsonwheelsrockland6799



Meals on Wheels Rockland



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Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

-Helen Keller