

Meals on Wheels Program INFO

Meals on Wheels and Home / Community-Based Services: Confusion exists as a result of the lack of awareness on the differences between Meals on Wheels and the Home / Community-Based Services provided by the Lieutenant Governor's Office .

The term Meals on Wheels is a generic name for meals that are delivered. Most often it is associated with home delivered meals to senior citizens. This is similar to how we call most tissues a Kleenex whether it the tissue is the brand name product or not.

Meals on Wheels Association of America (MOWAA) is a third party, privately funded, non-profit agency engaged in the senior meal industry. Their goal is to provide national leadership to end senior hunger, regardless of the source.

Meals On Wheels Association of America is the **national association for non-profit organizations** and governmental agencies engaged directly in the provision of meals and/or nutrition services predominantly to seniors. It is akin to a MD being a member of the American Medical Association. The AMA does not provide the healthcare, it provides support to the physician.

MOWAA receives no federal or state program OAA money to fund meals and services. They do receive federal grant money for special projects such as the National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging which is involved in training emergency planning.

Local Meals on Wheels agencies are managed by a wide assortment of organizations. Some are managed through the County Health Department or local Food Banks. Others are managed through Senior Citizen Centers, church groups, or local hospitals. Programs in the Lieutenant Governor's Office go beyond MOWAA services and in some cases LGOA providers are a part of MOWAA and provide ancillary services to help seniors stay at home.

Here's how it works

A local meal provider pays a fee to join MOWAA to gain access to knowledge and resources necessary for the provision of meals in accordance with the OAA guidelines. No funding is given toward the provision of meals. The local provider raises funds to provide meals and may or may not provide other services such as legal assistance, caregiver services or transportation.

The MOWAA website lists all providers in an area whether they are a MOWAA member or not.

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Meals on Wheels Association of America engages in

- Providing resources and technical assistance to member providers who pay a fee for the tools and to use the MoW name
- Lobbying

- Purchasing programs
- Has exclusive grant opportunities
- Organize state associations for a fee
- Received the grant to run the National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging

Who runs Meals on Wheels?

Local Meals on Wheels agencies are managed by a wide assortment of organizations. Some are managed through the County Health Department or local Food Banks. Others are managed through Senior Citizen Centers, church groups, or local hospitals.

While progress has been made in this educational endeavor, some policy leaders and aging network partners continue to confuse these services. Meals on Wheels is a privately funded nonprofit organization, with a limited scope directed to providing meals.

Home and Community-Based Services also provides meals, as well as numerous other services, such as transportation, homecare, legal services, and respite care. Home and Community-Based Services and Meals on Wheels' services complement each other.

Below is a chart which details the many services offered through these uniquely different, but valuable aging programs:

Services	LGOA Home and Community-Based Services	Meals on Wheels
Home-Delivered Meals	Yes	Yes
Meals Served at Group Sites	Yes	No
Transportation Services	Yes	No
I&R-A (Information & Assistance Services)	Yes	No
Respite Services	Yes	No
Legal Assistance	Yes	No
Caregiver Support	Yes	No
Homemaker Services	Yes	No
Minor Home Repairs	Yes	No
Health Promotion/Physical Fitness	Yes	No
Statewide Coverage Area	Yes	No

Note: The diversity of MOW programs and operations vary on the needs and resources of their communities. There are some MOW programs that provide a broader range of service than home delivered meals but there is no requirement on what services are provided beyond the home delivered meal. State funded HCBS programs provide continuity for a broad range of services across the state.

Information on SC activities

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It appears the areas in the Trident region that are not served by Senior Catering use MoW services

Community Services Contracted Through The Trident AAA Serving the Trident Region (from web site: from web site <http://www.tridentaaa.com/>))

Contracted Agenices	Berkeley Seniors	Dorchester Seniors	Charleston Area Senior Citizens Services	South Santee Community Center	Sea Island Comprehensive Health Care Center	Roper St. Francis Foundation
Services Provided						
Home Delivered Meals	●	●	●	●		
Evidence Based Health Promotion						●
Transportation to Programs	●	●	●	●	●	
Home Care Level 1	●	●				
Group Dining	●	●	●	●	●	

Senior Resources (Columbia area) website is promoting a meals on wheels fundraiser.

<http://www.seniorresourcesinc.org/programs.html>