

IMPACT PARTNERS



OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES | APRIL 2025

MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERING FOOD & FRIENDSHIP



As a nurse, Susan loved helping others. She considered it her calling. Sadly, her career was cut short when she was injured on the job and became plagued by chronic pain. Over time, she became progressively more bed-bound. **As a widow without family nearby, Susan found that *she* was the one who needed help.** She says she doesn't know where she'd be without Meals on Wheels.

"The volunteers that deliver my meals are like sunshine for me. They lift my spirits and are always asking if there's anything else they can do for me. **I so look forward to their visits.** In fact, I sometimes work my doctors' appointments around their deliveries because I don't want to miss seeing them!



The volunteers who deliver my meals are like sunshine for me. They are special souls to do what they do. I'm on a limited budget and also can't drive alot. Because of the regular nutrition I get through Meals on Wheels, I've been able to maintain a stable weight. I don't have enough words for what they do. How blessed am I? These people are extremely special to me."

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Meals on Wheels is a non-profit organization which has been serving Charlotte County since 1969. It is designed for senior citizen residents of this community who are unable to prepare and obtain meals for themselves. This local organization is one of 5,000 community-based Meals on Wheels programs across the country that are dedicated to addressing senior hunger and isolation.

Drivers develop relationships with clients, helping them feel less alone.

But Meals on Wheels is more than a meal. While it does serve much-needed nutrition to approximately 150 clients throughout Charlotte County, their impact extends far beyond dietary needs. "Drivers develop relationships with their clients, helping them to feel less alone. They help identify safety or wellness issues. But it goes even deeper than that," says Debbie Amaral, Marketing Manager at Meals on Wheels of Charlotte County. **"For some seniors, their Meals on Wheels driver is the only human contact they may have all week.** Many don't have family living nearby. The staff and volunteers at Meals on Wheels become their family."



Meals on Wheels cooks, packages and delivers 150 meals each weekday — 39,000 meals per year — to clients throughout Charlotte County. YOU can help them in their mission by **simply bringing in a jar of pasta sauce (any brand/kind)** to the Meals on Wheels table in the Worship Center lobby on **Sunday, April 27th**. This is a staple item they use often so it is always a need!



Our Impact Partner Better Together comes along families at-risk for DCF involvement by providing safe, loving Host Families for the children, while offering mentoring, coaching and support to the parent(s).

This month, adults and MVMNT Students came together to organize BT's storage unit. The unit houses clothing and other supplies for the children BT serves. Thank you!



**SUPPORT GWCS
TRAIL RUN
ON APRIL 26TH**

Gator Wilderness Camp School's annual Trail Run is Saturday, April 26th and thanks to your Extravagant Generosity, MC is a sponsor! Come enjoy the beautiful scenery at this 5k, 10k, or Southwest Florida. All race entry proceeds will benefit GWCS. Come enjoy activities, great food, and fun for the whole family!

Click [HERE](#) for more details and to register!

IP Service Hours

**ARE YOU SERVING AT OUR IPs?
LET US KNOW!**

It's as easy as 1-2-3!

- 1** Tap on the Church Center App on your phone
- 2** Scroll to the bottom of the Home screen
- 3** Click the "IP Service Hours" button and record your hours.

We want to celebrate and track how we are doing in reaching our IP service goals!