



























ON THE COVER: A new day begins at the Meals on Wheels Community Center, where warmth, nourishment, and community come together under the morning sunrise.

From the Board President



RORY COETZEE
BOARD PRESIDENT

As we step into the next chapter of Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula, we do so with a deep appreciation for where we've been—and a clear vision for where we're going. Over the past five decades, we have built more than a meal delivery service; we have built a community of care, ensuring that no senior, veteran, or vulnerable neighbor is left behind. Now, as we look ahead, we must prepare for an even greater challenge: meeting the rising demand for our services in the years to come.

Since 1972, our dedicated volunteers have contributed over **1 million hours**

of service, driving more than **4.7 million miles** to deliver over **2.8 million meals**. But as inspiring as these numbers are, they are only the beginning. 34% of Monterey County residents are food insecure, and **one-third of the Monterey County population will be over 50 years of age**. The need is growing—and so must we.

In response, we have developed a comprehensive strategic plan to expand our reach and ensure that every senior and at-risk neighbor receives the nourishment, companionship, and support they deserve. While our home-delivered meals program remains our most recognized service—delivering over 155,000 meals annually—we are so much more than meal providers. Our volunteers offer daily check-ins, critical social connection, and a watchful eye for health and safety concerns. For many, that simple visit is a lifeline to the outside world.

Beyond meal delivery, our Meals on Wheels Community Center is thriving, offering congregate dining, fitness classes, educational programs, and entertainment that keep our clients engaged and connected. And in times of crisis—whether it's wildfires, floods, or other emergencies—we stand ready to serve, providing thousands of meals to displaced residents and at-risk populations.

Looking ahead, we are partnering with the community to develop a state-of-the-art kitchen capable of producing up to 10,000 meals per day. This ambitious step will ensure we can meet the ever-growing need for decades to come.

None of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our volunteers, donors, community partners, board members, and dedicated staff. You are the heart of this mission, and together, we are building a future where no one in our community goes hungry or feels forgotten.

Together, we thrive,

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NOURISH ALL IN NEED.

Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula 700 Jewell Avenue Pacific Grove, CA 93950 Phone 831.375.4454 Fax 831.375.9887

info@mowmp.org Tax ID # 94-2157521

From the President / CEO



CHRISTINE WINGE PRESIDENT / CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

At Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula, we do more than deliver meals we nourish lives, foster connections, and strengthen our community. As we reflect on our journey and look toward the future, we are grateful for the support that makes our work possible.

With over 32,750 volunteer hours and 619,000 meals served, in 2024, we have built more than a meal delivery

program—we have built a lifeline. Every meal represents care, every visit offers companionship, and every service we provide brings comfort to those who need it most. Yet, as the need for our support grows, so does our commitment to meeting it with innovation and compassion.

This year, our **Meals on Wheels Community Center** has flourished, offering not just nourishment but opportunities for connection, movement, and learning. From vibrant group dining meals to fitness classes and lifelong learning programs, we are fostering a place where seniors and neighbors can come together, stay active, and thrive.

Our dedicated volunteers and staff continue to be the heart of our mission, ensuring that every meal delivered comes with kindness and a watchful eye on the well-being of those we serve. Whether providing home safety upgrades, delivering emergency meals during wildfires and storms, or simply sharing a conversation, we are here—because no one

This impact is only possible because of you. To our board members, volunteers, donors, and community partners—you are the reason we can make a difference. Together, we will continue to nourish and uplift those who need us, today and for generations to come.

With gratitude,



MOWMP Staff

Ernest Bell Driver

Jose Leon Cook

Eric Bleasdale Cook

Edan Lappas Cook

Carly Burgess Development Coordinator

Diego Majano Sosa Cook

James Burgess Driver/Kitchen Staff Kari Martorella Home Delivered Meals Manager

Melizza Camacho Bookkeeper

Mike Martorella Driver

Suzan Carabarin **Operations Manager**

Anne Mitchell Home Delivered Meals Associate

Robert Chapin Driver

Francisco Morfin Cook

Isaiah Cortright Executive Chef

Ivan Rivera Cook

Sous Chef Susan Elwood

Chase Ewing

Adolfo Diaz

Stephanie Scofield Home Delivered Meals Field Assessor

Recruitment & Outreach Manager

Executive Sous Chef

Jacob Shafer Senior Director of Advancement

in our community should feel alone or forgotten.

Jerrold Simon **David Foster** Marketing Manager

Home Delivered Meals Coordinator

Kay Smith Controller

Arthur Filipo Cook

Jian Song Cook

Cade Frost Cook

Philip Tantillo II

Gina Fu Cook

Tony Timmons Driver

Driver

Nikki Garello **Community Center** **Scott Tebo**

Concierge

Marketing Coordinator

Mark Hansen Director of Operations

Sylvie Vinavar Cook

Esther Hobbs Development Director

Christine Winge President / CEO



"A great big THANK YOU to all the kind hearted people who take time out of their busy lives to make and deliver the delicious hot meals daily. In the chaotic world we all live in, it's uplifting to know that Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula staff and volunteers exist. A big thank you to all!" - Home Delivered Meals Client







Our Home-Delivered Meals program remains at the heart of our mission, offering more than just nourishment—it provides a crucial connection for those who are often overlooked.

Delivering three freshly-prepared, locallysourced meals each day, this program addresses the nutritional needs of our homebound clients while promoting their overall health, safety, and independence.

Beyond the meals, these daily visits from caring volunteers serve as a vital lifeline, offering a friendly check-in and meaningful social interaction that help combat feelings of loneliness and isolation. Through this program, we continue to foster well-being and connection, ensuring our clients feel supported and valued.

In 2024, we expanded meal delivery in Carmel Valley, Marina, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside, providing over 462,000 meals on 37 delivery routes in Monterey County.

MOWMP.ORG/HDM





GROUP DINING

Our Group Dining programs throughout Monterey County play a vital role in fostering connections and encouraging healthy eating habits.

These communal meals provide more than just physical nourishment—they create a welcoming space where seniors, disabled adults, veterans, and other underserved individuals can build relationships, share stories, and enhance their overall well-being.

Locations and Meals Served

- MOW Community Center (Pacific Grove) 16,972
- El Estero Seniors Housing (Monterey) 1,674
- Firehouse Community Center (Salinas) 7,051
- Junsay Oaks Seniors Housing (Marina) 4,321
- Los Abuelitos Senior Center (Salinas) 9,418
- Marina Manor Seniors Housing (Marina) 3,943
- Oldemeyer Center (Seaside) 9,168
- Scholze Park Senior Center (Monterey) 5,569
- Sherwood Village CHISPA (Salinas) 11,150

Lunches Served: 69,266

COMMUNITY CENTER

For 37 years, the Meals on Wheels Community Center in Pacific Grove has served as a welcoming hub for our community, fostering connections and creating a sense of belonging for members to share time with friends and loved ones.

Expanding beyond nutritional support, the Community Center remains a vibrant space for recreational and social activities, championing our commitment to promoting health, wellness, and meaningful engagement in our community.

In 2024, we welcomed **350 Community Center members** and hundreds of community members for events, classes, and community building



Community Center Opportunities

- Health, Fitness, and Nutrition
- Textile Classes
- Food Bank Produce Truck
- Golden Connections
- HICAP Medicare Counseling
- Legal Services for Seniors
- Parkinson's Support Group
- Toastmasters
- Senior Living Communities and Care Options



Heartfelt Contributions: The Driving Force Behind Our Organization



Our volunteers are the heart and soul of everything we do, fueling our mission with their dedication and compassion.

In 2024, more than **600 active volunteers** generously gave over **32,750 hours** of their time to support our programs, making an incredible impact across Monterey County. We're also proud to share that, for the fourth consecutive year, we were honored as the **Best Volunteer Organization** by the readers of Monterey County Weekly—a testament to the rewarding experience our organization offers.



304 volunteers drove over **199,000 miles** and delivered **462,000 meals** to homebound clients and group diners, ensuring no one in our community was left behind. Our volunteers bring energy and care to every aspect of our work.

The unwavering commitment and generosity of all our volunteers are the backbone of our success, and we are profoundly grateful for each and every one of them.



For more information, visit

MOWMP.ORG/VOLUNTEER

Contact **Susan Elwood**, Volunteer & Outreach Manager at **selwood@mowmp.org** or by calling **831-375-4454**.





PROGRAMS



This program offers small-scale home repairs and safety upgrades for our clients allowing them to age in place with independence and peace of mind. These home projects are aimed at improving mobility, reducing falls, and supporting independence for local homebound seniors, adults with disabilities, and veterans.

In 2024, we completed **33 projects** including the installation of wheelchair ramps, handrails, porch repairs, walkways, heating, ventilation, lighting, and more.

MOWMP.ORG/HHH



Our Pet Meals program continued its efforts to provide pet food, supplies, and care for clients.

Pets provide unparalleled social and emotional support, offering comfort, companionship, and a sense of purpose for our Home Delivered Meals clients. It can be difficult for our homebound clients to procure the necessary food and supplies to keep their pets happy and healthy. In 2024, our staff and volunteers worked to help preserve the indispensable relationships clients have with their pets by making 1,032 pet meal deliveries for more than 54 pets across the Monterey Peninsula.





WHEELS IN MOTION LEGACY CIRCLE

We are proud to offer a dedicated website for our planned giving program, the Wheels in Motion Legacy Circle. Here, you'll find valuable information on wills, trusts, bequests, beneficiary designations, IRA charitable rollovers, and a variety of other ways to create a lasting legacy.

By including MOWMP in your estate plans, you can make an enduring impact that extends well beyond your lifetime. Whether you name us as a beneficiary in your will, living trust, life insurance policy, or retirement plan, your thoughtful gift will help combat food insecurity and provide critical support to those in need for generations to come. Together, we can ensure a future of hope, nourishment, and care for our community



Keep Our Wheels Turning

Contact us today to explore the many planned giving options available. We look forward to helping you create your legacy to provide nutrition and socialization for your friends, family, neighbors, and future generations.



MOWMP.ORG/WIM

Contact Jacob Shafer, Senior Director of Advancement at jshafer@mowmp.org or 831.375.4454 x120.

Meals and Feels

MOWMP+KRML



Don't miss out on the uplifting conversation where we share heartwarming stories and insights about our mission to nourish both body and soul in our local community on KRML radio 94.7FM Tuesdays around 2:45p.





The Superhero-themed event was a celebration of all our volunteers and supporters, recognizing their collective achievements and honoring them as the heartbeat of our organization.

A sincere thank you to all the amazing individuals who volunteer! Your dedication and support mean the world to us and to those we serve in our community. Your kindness, compassion, and commitment shine brightly, nourishing not just bodies, but spirits too.

Here's to each and every one of you who selflessly give your time and energy to drive out hunger and isolation. Your efforts empower independence and bring joy to so many.



GetHooked! Dinner

We partnered with the Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust for an unforgettable dinner event celebrating the vital role local fisheries play in promoting social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

Guests heard inspiring stories from the fishing community and learned about the impact sustainably harvested seafood - a cornerstone of the meals we proudly serve. The highlight was a beautifully curated seafood multi-course dinner, artfully prepared by Executive Chef Isaiah and Executive Sous Chef Chase.



PROVIDED PHOTOS







Women of the Year





Thank you to all who came and celebrated the resilience, strength, and achievements of one extraordinary woman in our community - Tamie Aceves. Guests enjoyed a culinary journey with hand-selected chefs curating an array of mouthwatering dishes, music, and dancing while supporting our wonderful organization.

Event Sponsors

Whitson Engineers La Creme Luxury Catering Sheila & David Allaire Montage Health

MOWMP.ORG/WOTY

Dianne and Bart Bruno Cynthia Gervais Sanchez KSBW



28th Annual Classique Gala



Classique is more than just a fundraising event—it's an immersive experience where luxury, community, and generosity come together, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Classique was a resounding success, showcasing the talents of two Michelinstarred chefs, one James Beard Award-winning chef, and a dozen locally acclaimed chefs. The event also featured the creative brilliance of 19 local designers, each crafting custom-designed tables that elevated the evening into a true work of art.



Funds raised at Classique help support the work we do in the community.

Event Sponsors

DIAMOND

Dianne & Bart Bruno Monterey Credit Union

TITANIUM

The Frisone Family Foundation Heidi & Steve Keller Morgan Stanley

GOLD

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Greg Quiroga

EVENT COMMITTEE

Tamie Aceves Dorothy Maras Heidi Tinuviel Sebok Cheryl Warner

AUCTION COMMITTEE

Heidi Friery Keller Mary Warburton-Boland

To our volunteers

Our thanks to all who generously gave their time and energy including the many students and local community groups that partner with us to keep our wheels turning at the Gala and year-round.

- MOWMP Volunteers
- National Charity League
- Monterey Bay Chapter
- Stevenson Athletics



AT&T Laptop Distribution

In a collaborative effort with AT&T External Affairs Regional Director Dr. Bettye Saxon, and with the support of Monterey County Supervisor Mary Adams and Pacific Grove Mayor Bill Peake, we were thrilled to welcome a group of community members with the generous gift of laptop computers.

These laptops are more than just devices—they are tools for connection, enabling recipients to stay in touch with friends, family, and their broader neighborhood, helping to bridge the digital divide and promote inclusion.

A special thank you goes out to our dedicated volunteers, who provided hands-on technical coaching to help recipients get their laptops up and running. From setting up accounts to teaching basic digital skills, their support ensured that these laptops could be fully utilized, empowering our community members to embrace technology with confidence.

Chefs' Specials & Member Dinners

The Chefs' Special Luncheons in 2024 featured an array of delectable creations including alligator gumbo, beef cheeks with parsnip puree, venison shepard's pie, porchetta, stuffed pork loin, fried chicken, smoked brisket with cornbread, and corn beef & cabbage.

Our **Member Dinner** events were culinary delights! Executive Chef Isaiah and Executive Sous Chef Chase wowed Meals on Wheels Community Center members with their culinary prowess with three-course dinners that featured gnocchi parisienne, prime rib, and swordfish.

Together, our knowledge and capabilities grew and so did our membership base to **350 members** in 2024.

MOWMP.ORG/MEMBERSHIP

Get access to exclusive member benefits, including member dinners and classes.





Business Excellence Award for Nonprofits, Clubs & Organizations

We are incredibly honored and humbled to announce we have been awarded the Business Excellence Award for 'Nonprofits, Clubs & Organizations' from the Monterey Chamber of Commerce!

This prestigious recognition drives public awareness of the vital role businesses play on the Central Coast, and highlights those that have achieved excellence

in their fields. We couldn't have done this without the unwavering support and generosity of our amazing community.

To our dedicated volunteers, passionate staff, and all our supporters: THANK YOU for believing in our mission.

This award is a testament to the collective effort of our entire community. Let's continue to make a difference together!

Outstanding Nonprofit -Changemaker Award

We have been recognized with the prestigious Outstanding Nonprofit - Changemaker Award from the Nonprofit Alliance of Monterey County!

This incredible recognition highlights the dedication and impact of our entire team, from staff and volunteers to board members and supporters, who work tirelessly to serve our community. It celebrates the strides we've made in driving meaningful change, addressing hunger, reducing isolation, and promoting health and well-being for seniors, veterans, adults with disabilities, and underserved populations throughout Monterey County.

We share this honor with everyone who believes in and supports our mission. Together, we are making a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve. Thank you for supporting this journey with us!





United States Representative Jimmy Panetta Site Visit

We were honored to have Congressman Jimmy Panetta (CA-19) visit the Meals on Wheels Community Center, serving lunch to our guests and showing his continued support for our mission.

Representative Panetta's deep roots in the Central Coast and his commitment to public service are truly inspiring. His dedication to the well-being of our community, from supporting our veterans to protecting the welfare of our clients and environment, reflects the values we all hold dear.



Thank you, Representative Panetta, for taking the time to connect with our seniors, veterans, and families.

Together, we continue to drive out hunger and isolation in Monterey County!

PARTNERSHIPS

Community Partnerships Strengthen Our Impact

As we reflect on the strides we are making in addressing hunger and isolation in Monterey County, it becomes evident that our community's strength lies in our collective efforts and shared commitment to working toward the common goal.

























































STEVENSON







THANK YOUNTO MALL OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

On the following pages are the names of those whose generosity fund vital programs and meaningful engagement to improve the lives and well-being of the clients we serve.

WHO ARE COMMITTED TO SERVING SENIORS, DISABLED ADULTS, VETERANS, AND OTHER UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

\$25,000+

Robertson Living Trust, Anneli Rosenthal

City of Monterey

County of Monterey

Evelyn Torras Charitable Remainder Unitrust for **Community Foundation** for Monterey County

Hartman-Kok **Revocable Trust**

Meals on Wheels: **Association of America**

Monterey Peninsula **Foundation**

Monterey County Gives!*

Nancy Eccles and Homer M. Hayward **Family Foundation**

Nancy G. Wright **Revocable Trust**

Robertson Fund

Paula Robichaud

Nancy Wright

\$10,000 -\$24,999

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The Community Foundation for Monterey County

The PG&E Corp Foundation

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Joseph Weiss

Dominic and Cat Yanez

\$1.000 - \$4.999

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Monterey Peninsula Toastmasters Club

Sarah Pierce and Dennis O'Neill

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Carmel Woman's Club

State of California

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Cathleen Rose

Foxy, The Nunes Company, Inc.

Whitson Engineers

Estate of Alida Tyler-**Blocker Trust**

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Gayle Crowell and **Curt Berger**

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Carol and Chuck Keller

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Dan and Kate Kurz Carol and Brian LeNeve

Mechanics Bank

100% of our recipients report that receiving home delivered meals has helped them maintain their independence within the comfort of their own homes.

With a resounding **100%** satisfaction rate reported by our clients, we take pride in the quality and impact of our services.

What sets us apart isn't just the quality of our meals, but the warmth and compassion of our volunteers. We're proud to share that 100% of our clients report our dedicated volunteers are friendly and caring.

Richard Moley Brian Park Reese Family* Kim and Peter Smoot Tracy Gibbons Charitable* Doug and Gail Ferrari Jay Mora Heidi Friery Jose Rodriguez Linda and Rod Gabrielson Jane Brown Simona Hodek Martin Mickey and Jan McGuire Lana Maudlin Mathew and Natalie Atkins Darin Scott Reddy Kristin and Paul Vais Aimee and Jeff Cuda Penelope K. Lockhart Nancy and John Ruiz Gabrielle Mancuso-Fiorentino and Fox Fiorentino Gabriele Graham and Franklin C. Myers Imogene Speiser Rene Rylander and Mark Ditmanson Mary E. Beard Mary Lou Leonard Monday Knit and Purl Group Robert Coble Paul H. Singer Carlos and Gabriela Forte Heidi and Kurt Schake Ruth Donohugh Frieg/Masqueller Fund Stephen A. Hartzell Jack and Linda Barker Robert M. and Katherine L. Petty Roger and Carolann Manley Family Gift Fund Cinda and Joseph Rossi Wanda Nadine Skonberg John Brandlin Laurie Kleinman and Richard S. Gerber **Emily Nicholl** Elaine and Floyd Viau Joann Parent Helen Moore Carolyn Hardy

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Kristina Olfson and

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dedicated volunteers is vital to their overall well-being. Leland Rosenblum Virginia and Gary Russell Ryan and Gina Edwards Jaqueline Sarte Ken and Joelle Silveira Sarah Staples Joanne Storkan Albert Tao and Thuy Nguyen Rick and Joyce Thau Peter and Anne Thorp Timothy Rodrigues and Alan Mason Rolf and Darleen Trautsch Roberta Troxell Scott Van Tyle Hildegard Von Dehn Mancina Family Charitable Wanda C. Vollmer Fund at Schwab Charitable Foundation* Larry Wells Judy Ann Williamson Family Fund at Sacramento Spurlock

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Michael and Gloria K. Ipson

Diana Burke

Colleen Helm

94% Every meal we deliver comes

ensuring that our clients receive not

only the nutrition they need but also

the companionship they crave. In fact,

94% of our clients have reported that

the social contact they have with our

with a side of social interaction,

*A fund of Community Foundation for Monterey County

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1:2 Clients

Through our Home Delivered Meals program, we bring more than sustenance; we deliver independence and dignity to those who need it most. It's disheartening to know that 1 out of 2 of our Home Delivered Meals clients had to make the agonizing choice between having enough food and meeting other basic needs in the last six months. With your support, we can ensure that no one has to face such decisions alone.

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99%

Our commitment to excellence is reflected in the fact that **99%** of our clients report that these meals are crucial to their health and overall well-being.

99% of our clients report that our meals provide enough healthy food to support a good quality of life. We take pride in delivering more than nutrition, also comfort and care to those who need it most in our neighbors.

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William Cole Vineyards

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Because of you, our community receives nourishing meals, companionship, and the support they deserve. Your generosity fuels meaningful connections, brightens lives, and ensures no one is left behind. Every meal served, every smile shared, and every moment of care is made possible by your kindness and dedication. Together, we are strengthening our community and making a lasting impact.

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