NOVEMBER 2026

MEALS on WHEELS WESTERN MICHIGAN

Volunteer NEWS

YOU'RE AN ESSENTIAL PIECE

NO SENIOR HUNGRY OR FORGOTTEN

VOLUNTEER DELIVERY DRIVER UPDATES

Thank you to everyone who attended our volunteer driver meetings in October.

At the meeting, we announced some important updates that officially launch in November:

1. Route times are changing.

Updated times are posted on Terry's window, and VolunteerHub now reflects the new schedule. This change reflects the client growth we've experienced in Allegan County this year. As a result, volunteer routes will start 15-45 minutes later.

This should reduce morning wait times and ensure routes are ready when volunteers arrive.

2. Signing in and out.

Volunteers should start to sign in and out of VolunteerHub on the tablet in the delivery area. This should help us track volunteer hours more accurately as our volunteer program continues to grow.

Checking in and out is easy; just search by name or use a QR code.

3. New clipboards coming soon.

They include a privacy cover flap to better protect client information on the route logs.

BLIZZARD BOXES



thank you!

72
Volunteers helped deliver boxes.

600
Blizzard Boxes were delivered.

This was a great opportunity for volunteers and community members who don't normally deliver to see firsthand the impact we make for local seniors.

Special thanks to our Blizzard Box sponsors and the local bakeries that donated donuts for our volunteers.

HOLIDAY DELIVERY DAYS

Looking for another fun way to serve outside of our regular deliveries?

We have several upcoming ***Holiday Delivery Days.*** Extra routes are added during weeks when we're closed for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's so that we can deliver meals ahead of time.

HOLIDAY DELIVERY DATES:
THANKSGIVING, NOV 24
CHRISTMAS, DEC 22
NEW YEAR'S, DEC 31

MOWWM CLOSE DATES:
NOV, 26 & 27

Already delivered for MOWWM?
Regular volunteers who want to participate can contact the volunteer department or let Terry know at the delivery window.

Know anyone who may want to sign up for holiday deliveries?
New volunteers can sign up here: https://vhub.at/holidaydeliverydays.

Please share this link with anyone who is looking to help in the community during the holidays.

Help 'Fuel Up' Our GivingTuesday Match!

We're inviting you to help with a special GivingTuesday Volunteer Match! Thanks to the generosity of volunteers like you, this effort has been a tremendous success over the past two years.

The theme 'Fuel Us Up' helps showcase the many ways your support fuels nutritious meals, meaningful connections, and deliveries to local seniors.

Gifts of any size will be pooled together to **double the impact** of donations made on **GivingTuesday, December 1**.

We know many of you have already generously supported MOWWM financially this year, and we are so grateful! There's no expectation to give, but we'd love to offer everyone the opportunity to participate.

We hope to hear from you by mid-November in order to make this match a success. Make your gift online here or email Lydia at lvanderhill@mowwm.org with the amount you pledge to give.

Food & Household Essentials

FALL FOOD DRIVE

October 1 - November 13, we're collecting nonperishable food and household essentials to help stock our Senior Pantry.

Volunteers can make a difference by bringing donations during their volunteer shift and placing them in the collection boxes located at the front office in Grandville or at the Pantry.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- Cereal & Oatmeal
- Pasta & Soups
- Canned/Dried Fruit
- Canned Protein (ex: chicken or tuna)
- Condiments
- Oils
- Spices
- Toilet Paper
- Soaps (laundry, body, dish)

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



MEALS on WHEELS WESTERN MICHIGAN

Kim Reynolds

PANTRY & SPECIAL EVENTS

OCTOBER 2026

"Kim radiates gratitude and generosity and is loved by the staff and clients she interacts with. For the past six years, she has supported our Senior Pantry and Mobile Pantry sites with warmth and enthusiasm—assisting clients, stocking shelves, and eagerly stepping in wherever she is needed. This year, Kim has been an invaluable member of the Chef's Specialty event committee.

In addition to making her own generous contributions, she has used her many community connections to secure gifts for the live auction and even encouraged the Whitecaps chef to participate in the competition.

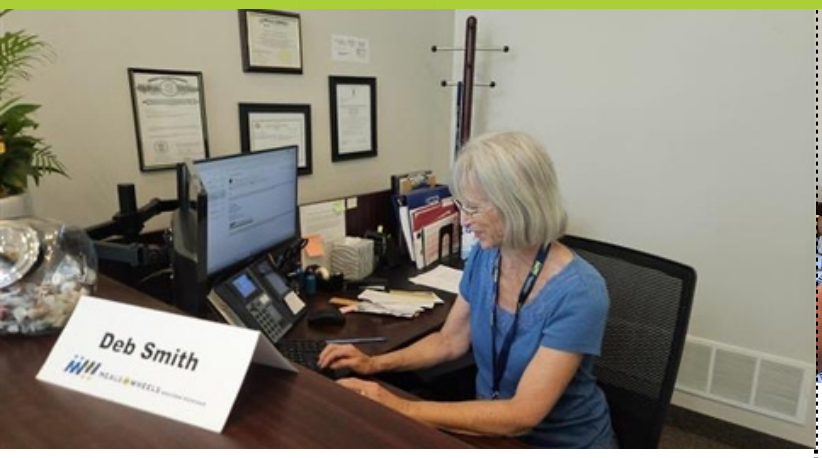
Despite everything she contributes, Kim often downplays her own efforts and is quick to give others the credit. Her kindness, generosity, and willingness to help wherever needed are greatly appreciated!"

ANNIVERSARY DATES

- Anna Kane, 11-13, 2 Years
- Michael Ruch, 11-27, 2 Years
- Patricia Boven, 11-13, 3 Years
- Sonia Blue, 11-29, 3 Years
- James Dehlinger, 11-05, 7 Years
- Gordon Smith, 11-14, 8 Years

thank you!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Front Desk Volunteers

We have an amazing group of loyal volunteers that serve at our front desk in Grandville! These admin volunteers help answer phone calls, greet visitors, assist with data entry, and lots of small admin tasks like envelope stuffing, sorting, and more.

Can you commit to a regular weekly shift on Monday or Thursday?
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

New low-commitment shifts:
Monday - Friday 3:00-4:30 p.m.

HELP AT THE FRONT DESK



Community Dining Sites

Community Dining Sites are a great place for seniors to eat a nutritious meal and build relationships with their neighbors! Volunteers assist MOWWM staff with every part of the meal, from setup and takedown to serving food and building community.

Help needed at
Kentwood Community Hub
Grand Rapids: at Mt. Mercy Apartments
Grand Rapids: at MoTown Square Apartments
Allegan County: at Baraga Manor Apartments

VOLUNTEER AT A DINING SITE



THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!











Delivery Drivers

We need more delivery drivers! Whether you can occasionally pick up an open shift and cover vacancies, or if you want to volunteer each week and adopt a route, we need more help filling all our stops.

Volunteer drivers deliver on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday starting around 8:30 a.m. The routes typically take 1-3 hours. If you or someone you know wants to drive for the first time, email volunteer@mowwm.org.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Haley Bean would like to thank volunteer Brent Bradley for his help picking up donations for our Food Drive.

Brent is a regular volunteer driver and an all-around great guy who went above and beyond to help Haley with a large donation. Thanks, Brent, for the extra support!

GROUP SPOTLIGHT

YAY!

Special thanks to all the groups who volunteered in September! The support of community groups and corporate sponsors is essential to helping us provide quality nutrition services to older adults.

- Calvin University Swim & Dive Team
- Cathedral of St. Andrew
- Crossroads High School
- GFS
- GVSU ALPFA
- GVSU Physical Therapy Students
- GVSU Women's Basketball Team
- Honor Credit Union
- Meijer
- MFCU
- MOKA
- The Grand Rapids Lions Group
- The Grand Rapids Rotary Club
- Zawadi Group Home

NO SENIOR HUNGRY OR FORGOTTEN







KEEP IN TOUCH, STAY INVOLVED

"I propose, once again, that you are, in part, who loves you. Who might step outside of themselves to find whatever will heal you, return you to a place where you are loved."
~Hanif Abdurraqib

mowwm.org | (616) 459-3111