



More Than Meals!

OCTOBER 2011

Just Days until MOWC's Largest Celebrity Chef Ball

On Friday, October 14th, Meals on Wheels Chicago will transform the 9th Floor of Macy's on State Street into a food-lover's heaven. Step off the elevator and find yourself immersed in over 55 chef stations and a dozen mixologist stations. Chefs from throughout the City, and even a few from cities far way, will be waiting to treat your palette to their tasty creations. From sushi to cupcakes, and beets to BBQ, carnivores, herbivores and omnivores alike can find plenty to enjoy!

The 23rd Annual Celebrity Chef Ball (CCB) is the City's longest consecutive-running culinary event, and MOWC's largest fundraiser. The event which has two parts – The VIP Chef's Table, an interactive seated dinner, and The Chef's Tasting Party, a dine-around tasting featuring music and more – is on track to be the largest CCB ever. That's thanks in part to a recent partnership with Travelzoo who is promoting the event with a special Local Deal (Oct. 4-11). "We are very excited about this partnership and the growth of the event," said event chair Chandra Ram. "We've expanded the event space and recruited even more chefs and mixologists, plus some other fun features to entertain guests. The CCB committee has worked hard to make this year even better than before!"

While The VIP Chef's Dinner has been sold out for over a week, tickets are still available for The Chef's Tasting Party. Tickets can be purchased online at www.mealsonwheelschicago.org. Don't delay though, the entire event is projected to sell out before the first plate is served!

N O U R I S H
Family • Community • Chicago

2011 Meals on Wheels Chicago Celebrity Chef Ball
Friday • October 14 • 2011

Tickets are still available for
The Chef's Tasting Party
\$125 per person • 8:00pm – 12:30am

Over 55 chef stations • 12 mixologist stations
• Live Band • FIJI Water Chef-DJ • Photo Booth •
Casino Gaming • Silent Auction • And more!



The Chicago Community Trust Grants MOWC \$20,000

The Chicago Community Trust recently granted Meals on Wheels Chicago (MOWC) a grant for \$20,000 to be applied to the Home Delivered Meals Program during the 2011-2012 holiday season. The organization is honored to have been selected for this grant, made possible by the Trust's Unity Challenge, a special fund created to support the increased human service demands during challenging economic times. MOWC will apply 100% of the grant toward the meal program, providing nearly 6,000 meals to homebound seniors.

MOWC Board President, Amy Dordek Dolinsky, commented "the organization is honored to have been chosen and recognized by The Chicago Community Trust as a non-profit organization making a significant impact in the senior community through our programs and initiatives." Executive Director, Kimberly Porritt also commented "we are grateful for this new partnership and the opportunity to really aid our community of homebound seniors who've experienced tremendous strain during the economic crisis."

About The Chicago Community Trust

For 96 years, The Chicago Community Trust, our region's community foundation, has connected the generosity of donors with community needs by making grants to organizations working to improve metropolitan Chicago. In 2010, the Trust, together with its donors, granted more than \$100 million to nonprofit organizations. From strengthening community schools to assisting local art programs, from building health centers to helping lives affected by violence, the Trust continues to enhance our region. To learn more, please visit the Trust online at www.cct.org



Stay Connected with Meals on Wheels



Find us on Facebook to see all the photos from our events... past and present! Be sure to recommend us to all your friends!

Want to get all the latest updates on the 2011 Celebrity Chef Ball?
Follow us @MOWChicago



Friends Beyond Years: A Special Volunteer Opportunity

Almost two years ago, MOWC recognized the need to create an outlet for corporate and community groups who were interested in volunteering their time to serve the senior community of Chicago. Because Meals on Wheels Chicago does not have opportunities for volunteers to assist in the direct preparation and delivery of meals, the "Senior Site Visit" program was developed.

We have recently renamed the program "Friends Beyond Years", a name we believe more accurately portrays the nature of the program. At FBF site visits, volunteers interact with the seniors at local community senior centers as they do a morning or afternoon activity together. The most popular program is BINGO! This program has been quickly growing and we have completed 6 site visits since April, with more scheduled for November and December.

We'd like to thank those companies and groups who have given of their time recently to spend time with our seniors:
Charter One Bank, Hub International, Northern Trust, Huron Consulting, the Honeycomb Project, and MOWC's Associate Board.

If you'd like to get your group involved, please contact Andrew Seibert at 312.744.0684.



A Note from the Executive Director: Can We Make the Season Bright?

With the holidays just around the corner, most of us are already busy, planning our family gatherings and holiday dinners. It is a season full of warmth and love that we deeply cherish and look forward to. But for many of our city's seniors, the holidays are a time of uncertainty. Faced with the prospect of spending the holiday season alone, many of our elderly neighbors also wonder if their meal service will continue during the holidays. Imagine that instead of planning a wonderful meal for loved ones, you were left to wonder if you would eat at all. For Chicago's homebound seniors, the holidays can present a difficult and lonely time. That is why it is so important to support the Meals on Wheels Chicago Holiday Meals program. This special program ensures that no senior will be alone and hungry during the holidays; that none will be forgotten. Your contribution to the Direct Mail Holiday Campaign will help ensure that every senior enrolled in the meal delivery program will have a special holiday meal delivery brought to them by the familiar face of their delivery driver. Please watch your mail in early November for this important letter; it is an opportunity to send a message to our senior community that we care and will not leave them alone. One meal delivery is just \$6.67 but can provide so much more than nourishment. During the hectic holiday season please remember there are those quietly waiting to see if they were remembered. Please help us ensure that they are.

Annual Golf Classic Hits the Green!

The 16th Annual Golf Classic on June 6 was a great success, driving past our fundraising goals. We are very pleased to share that our Golf Classic raised over \$106,000 this year in support of our mission.

The Golf Classic's success is due in large part to the members of our committee who devote their time and energies to making it happen. Many of these individuals have been involved for more than 10 years on this event.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to:

Rick Fiore
Anthony Fiore
Ed Romo
Lorraine Corpuz

Tim Lacy
Jennifer Wood
Ken Delisi
Scott Whitlock

David Koelling
Mike Hartwig
Rudy Negron
Andrew Parkinson

Corporate Partner Spotlight: Travelzoo

As Meals on Wheels gears up to host the 23rd Annual Celebrity Chef Ball event on Friday, October 14th, the organization is excited about a new partnership that emerged in 2011. This year, the event will be sponsored, in part, by the global internet media company Travelzoo. Publishing travel, entertainment and local deals to over 24 million online subscribers worldwide, Travelzoo supports local philanthropic efforts in the communities they serve. Travelzoo will sponsor the Celebrity Chef Ball with combined cash and in-kind contributions valued at over \$23,000 and will help promote ticket sales through their local deals, donating back sales of event tickets (up to \$40,000).

Meals on Wheels Chicago Executive Director Kimberly Porritt said of the new partnership, "we are especially grateful to have Travelzoo's support of the Celebrity Chef Ball. As a first time sponsor of this event, we are sincerely impressed with their generosity and commitment to seeing the event succeed. Of the thousands of worthy charitable organizations in the Chicagoland area, Travelzoo's choice to support our cause is significant and we are grateful for the opportunity."

About Travelzoo

Travelzoo Inc. is a global Internet media company. With more than 24 million subscribers in North America, Europe, and Asia Pacific and 24 offices worldwide, Travelzoo® publishes deals from more than 2,000 travel, entertainment and local companies. Travelzoo Deal Experts review offers to find the best deals and confirm their true value. In Asia Pacific, Travelzoo is independently owned and operated by Travelzoo (Asia) Ltd. and Travelzoo Japan K.K. under a license agreement with Travelzoo Inc.

From the President...

When I joined the Meals on Wheels Chicago Board of Directors in 2003, I knew the opportunity would be one of the most important and personally satisfying experiences of my life. Like anyone else who accepts a position on a non-profit board, I understood my role was to govern, assist with planning, and promote the mission and activities of the organization. Additionally, I was able to pull from my real life experience and began to recruit new board members who represented a diverse field of professionals, willing to contribute their time and talent to making this organization the best it could be.

When I transitioned into the presidency role in 2008, one of the challenges our Executive team focused on was creating a more diverse board of directors who were committed to fundraising and who also were representative of the population Meals on Wheels Chicago serves. While this challenge is an ongoing priority, we have made considerable strides in breathing new life into the organization and welcoming new board members to our existing team.

I would like to personally thank and acknowledge our current board of directors (listed below) and also welcome new members Sarah Jahn of the MID, Lou Pagano of Ferrara Pan, Debbie Murphy of Allocation Distributors, Justine Knizeski of Blue Cross Blue Shield, Chris Campbell of Banker's Life and Casualty Company, and Mike O'Connell of Integrys Energy Group. Additionally, I want to recognize and thank Alec Hopmayer for his years of service, as we say goodbye and wish him the best. Alec and the Hopmayer family have supported Meals on Wheels from the beginning and made a tremendous impact on who we are today.

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Vice President

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