Meals on Wheels of Charlottesville | Albemarle

Neighbors helping neighbors … one meal at a time.

Press Release

March 23, 2007 — Charlottesville, VA

Meals on Wheels Receives Grant from CACF to Fund Meals for Needy City Residents

Meals on Wheels of Charlottesville/Albemarle has received a grant of $5,000 from the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation to cover the cost of food for meals served to indigent Charlottesville city residents. Meals on Wheels delivers hot, noontime meals to needy residents throughout our area, 5 days a week, 52 weeks a year. The non-profit organization has experienced increases in need for its service each of the past four years, and now delivers between 180–200 meals per day, in 2006 totaling over 45,000 meals delivered.

In addition to the increase in the number of clients, Meals on Wheels reports an increase in the number of clients who cannot contribute even a small portion of the cost of their meals. The two factors combine to create an ongoing budget challenge for the organization. "We've been running faster to stay in place," says Mandy Hoy, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels, "but our client base in the city especially has grown exponentially; currently, over 80% of city clients are subsidized by Meals on Wheels. This CACF grant helps to ensure that our neediest neighbors in the city can rely on us to deliver a meal to them each weekday."

Meals on Wheels currently has 200 volunteers, delivering meals along 25 routes, not only in Charlottesville and Albemarle County, but also in western and southern Albemarle. Importantly, in addition to the meal, the social contact volunteers provide to our homebound neighbors is a critical part of our community's safety net — and makes volunteering for Meals on Wheels especially rewarding.

Meals on Wheels is celebrating 30 years of service to our community this year, and is planning a special calendar of events to recognize this important milestone. A vital community resource, Meals on Wheels is an entirely independent local organization, relying solely on area businesses, organizations, and individuals to support its operating budget. It costs $1400 to supply meals for one individual for one year, just $5.50 per day. Anyone interested in more information about the program should call (434)293-4364 or visit www.cvillemeals.org.