



Meals on Wheels of Cheyenne
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Meals on Wheels of Cheyenne COVID-19 Response

CHEYENNE, Wyo. – March 17, 2020 – Meals on Wheels of Cheyenne has been monitoring the evolving situation with Coronavirus 19 (COVID-19) and is temporarily adapting its operations to continue preparing and delivering meals as safely as possible. Effective 3/16/2020, the Meals on Wheels buildings are closed to the general public and volunteer drivers until further notice.

“We are proactively making operational changes to join the community in preventing the spread of COVID-19,” Executive Director Meg Kylander said. “The health of our clients, volunteers, and staff is our top priority. We will continue delivering meals and will make outbound calls to our clients more frequently to monitor their well-being and ensure they have the essentials they need.”

Kitchen staff and kitchen volunteers will continue preparing frozen meals in the Meals on Wheels kitchen. Curbside pickup has been implemented to temporarily eliminate congregation of volunteer drivers in the community room. Meals on Wheels staff members will meet volunteer drivers outside to provide them delivery route sheets and meals. New procedures have been put in place to minimize contact between volunteer drivers and clients. Additional planning is taking place to implement further restrictions as needed. Shelf stable meals have been ordered in quantities that could feed clients for 7-14 days if needed. New client intakes have been suspended until further notice. Lastly, the Meals on Wheels Mart (Thrift Store) is closed until further notice and will not accept donations until it reopens to the public.

Many of the Meals on Wheels staff, volunteers, and clients are at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19. The organization understands the importance of continuing to provide therapeutic meals for its clients but must do so in a safe and cautious manner.

“Our staff members, volunteers and board of directors are passionate about continuing to feed the homebound in our community,” Board President Tyler Gibbs said. “As the COVID-19 situation evolves, we will follow guidance from the Laramie County Health Department, Wyoming Department of Health and the CDC. We will continue adapting as needed to ensure we can feed our clients safely.”

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Meals on Wheels of Cheyenne is dedicated to improving the quality of life of those with the greatest physical, nutritional, social and economic needs. We serve approximately 90,000 meals annually to the frail, the elderly, the disabled, the ill, the convalescing, and the at-risk homebound. Meals on Wheels is a vital part of human services for Cheyenne and Laramie County and is the only area program that delivers hot meals in person, which allows us the added ability to check on our clients' safety, provide them with daily companionship, and find out if they have any additional need. For more information, please visit: www.mealsonwheelsofcheyenne.com.