

# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **MEALS WHEELS OPEN NEW DISTRIBUTION SITE IN LAUREL THANKS TO HOWARD COUNTY GRANT**

(Towson, MD) - Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland has announced that they will be opening a new distribution and volunteer site at 9900 Washington Boulevard, Laurel MD 20723 on Wednesday, August 5, 2015.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 10:00am at the new location and the general public is invited to join MOWCM for light refreshments. Staff will be available to talk about the programs and services that MOWCM offers as well as volunteer opportunities in the Laurel, Jessup and Savage neighborhoods.

Funding for the new site was provided by the Howard County Department of Citizen Services Initiative Grant. The funds provided will be used to facilitate the new location and a new part-time staff member to manage the site. With the new location, it is expected that 30 new home-bound individuals will be able to immediately begin receiving our services.

By establishing the new distribution site – where our delivery van directly drops off meals – foods will be kept at safer temperatures throughout the delivery process. The site will also allow for increased outreach and support for the homebound in this area, as well as recruitment of local volunteers with more convenient delivery routes.

MOWCM is a volunteer-based organization and each weekday throughout central Maryland, volunteers pick up pre-packaged meals at various distribution sites and then return the

empty cooler and hotbox containers to the same location after they have delivered the meals to clients of the program. With the opening of the new site, MOWCM is in need of new volunteers. On average, delivery routes take 60-90 minutes or less and both individuals and businesses may volunteer to “adopt” a route. Volunteer routes are available Monday – Friday.

The Department of Citizen Services is comprised of the Office of Children’s Services, Office of Consumer Affairs, and the Office on Aging. Other components of the Department include: Disabilities Services, the Community Service Partnerships program (which provides County funding to non-profit human services agencies), and Homeless Services.

To learn more about the event on August 5 or volunteer opportunities, contact **Guy Arceneaux @ 443-573-0929** or [arceneaux@mowcm.org](mailto:arceneaux@mowcm.org)

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