

**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
WINDSOR HEIGHTS, IOWA  
AGENDA STATEMENT**


Item No. 6a  
For Meeting of 9/28/2009

**ITEM TITLE:** Approval of \$100 contribution to Meals on Wheels Program.

**CONTACT PERSON(S):** Marketa Oliver, City Administrator

**SUMMARY EXPLANATION**

Wesley Retirement Services provides Meals on Wheels to residents throughout the Des Moines Metro, including residents residing in Windsor Heights. The Policy, Administration and Finance Committee recently reviewed a request from the organization to help financial support this program. The Committee recommends contributing \$100.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolution _____ Ordinance _____ Contract _____ Other (Specify) _____
Funding Source _____
APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL _____ <div style="text-align: right;"> City Administrator</div>

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**COUNCIL ACTION:**



August 17, 2009

Jerry Sullivan  
City of Windsor Heights  
1133 66<sup>th</sup> Street  
Windsor Heights, IA 50324

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

On Thursday, October 15, 2009, WesleyLife will be hosting the second annual fundraising event, *An Extraordinary Meal on Wheels*, to augment the Meals on Wheels program of Greater Des Moines.

The goals of this event are to increase awareness of the hunger, poverty, and related issues and also to provide warm nutritious meals to a greater number of seniors. The 2008 event proceeds totaled over \$26,000, providing an opportunity to feed an additional 4,300 meals to seniors and disabled adults living in Greater Des Moines. This funding made a significant difference in our ongoing effort to overcome *Senior Hunger* in Greater Des Moines. It was a progressive dinner, starting with appetizers in Johnston, main course in Ames, and dessert in Madrid. Our guests traveled on a comfortable motor coach, *it truly was an extraordinary meal on wheels!*

**In 2008, over 250,000 meals were prepared and delivered in Greater Des Moines through the MOW program. In January 2008, 4,934 meals were served; by January 2009, the number had risen to 5,927! The number of seniors desperately needing these meals continues to spiral. According to a recent study, by 2025, 75% more seniors will experience less availability or less access to food, and 33% more will suffer hunger. The statistics are overwhelming, considering the fact that we live in Iowa, the heartland of the Mid-West.**

Through WesleyLife's Meals on Wheels program, our clients receive a hot, freshly prepared meal delivered to their door each weekday. The Meals on Wheels service is provided using a sliding fee scale to assure that anyone who truly needs a meal gets a meal, regardless of their ability to pay. This program utilizes paid and volunteer drivers to deliver meals to those who are in need. While the meal and its nutritional value are the focus of the service, those receiving meals also benefit from daily contact from the person who delivers their meal. Lives are saved because our trained drivers complete daily safety checks for our meal recipients!

In 2009, we are keeping with the theme of an extraordinary culinary experience accompanied by great wines. The event will begin at 'Sticks Studio', located in Des Moines, for appetizers. Our guests will then travel by motor coach to West Des Moines to WesleyLife's newest campus, Edgewater, for dinner followed by entertainment and auction.

WesleyLife is requesting the city of Windsor Heights to please consider supporting the 2009 event with a monetary donation. **Your financial support can make a tremendous impact on the success of this event and send a message of urgency in overcoming Senior Hunger in Des Moines and the surrounding communities.**

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this proposal. Thank you for your consideration of this request!

Sincerely,



Ms. Rae von Holdt  
Director of Development  
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